READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

FOR

JEWISH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

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Readings from the Holy Scriptures : for Jewish members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

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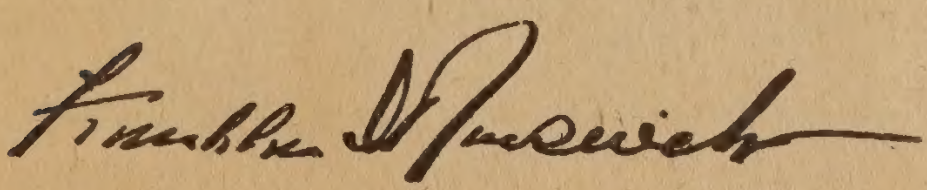
March 6, 1941

To the Members of the Army:

As Commander-in-Chief I take pleasure in commending the reading of the Bible to all who serve in the armed forces of the United States. Throughout the centuries men of many faiths and diverse origins have found in the Sacred Book words of wisdom, counsel and inspiration. It is a fountain of strength and now, as always, an aid in attaining the highest aspirations of the human soul.

Very sincerely yours,



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READINGS

FROM THE

HOLY SCRIPTURES

FOR

JEWISH MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

OF THE UNITED STATES

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
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GENESIS

Story of Creation

1 In the beginning God created the heaven
and the earth. 2 Now the earth was unformed and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God hovered over the face of the waters. 3 And God said: 'Let there be light.' And there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

6 And God said: 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.' 7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

9 And God said: 'Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. 10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters called He Seas; and God saw that it was good. 11 And God said: 'Let the earth put forth grass, herb yielding seed, and fruit-tree bearing fruit after its kind, wherein is the seed thereof, upon the earth.' And it was so. 12 And the earth brought forth grass, herb yielding seed after its kind, and tree bearing fruit, wherein is the seed thereof, after its kind; and God saw that it was

good. 13 And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

14 And God said: 'Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. 16 And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; and the stars. 17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

20 And God said: 'Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let fowl fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.' 21 And God created the great sea-monsters, and every living creature that creepeth, wherewith the waters swarmed, after its kind, and every winged fowl after its kind; and God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying: 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.' 23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24 And God said. 'Let the earth bring forth the living creature after its kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after its kind.' And it was so. 25 And God made the beast of the earth after its kind, and the cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. 26 And God said: 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the

sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.' 27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. 28 And God blessed them; and God said unto them: 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that creepeth upon the earth.' 29 And God said: 'Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed—to you it shall be for food; 30 and to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is a living soul, [I have given] every green herb for food.' And it was so. 31 And God saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 And the heaven and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God finished His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it; because that in it He rested from all His work which God in creating had made.

4 These are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven.

5 No shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for the LORD God had not caused it to rain

upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground; 6 but there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. 7 Then the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. 8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward, in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became four heads. 11 The name of the first is Pishon; that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; 12 and the gold of that land is good; there is bdellium and the onyx stone. 13 And the name of the second river is Gihon; the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Cush. 14 And the name of the third river is Tigris; that is it which goeth toward the east of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. 15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying: 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.'

18 And the LORD God said: 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him.' 19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto the man to see what he would call

them; and whatsoever the man would call every living creature, that was to be the name thereof. 20 And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him. 21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the place with flesh instead thereof. 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from the man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And the man said: 'This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.' 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

3 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman: 'Yea, hath God said: Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden?' 2 And the woman said unto the serpent: 'Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said: Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.' 4 And the serpent said unto the woman: 'Ye shall not surely die; 5 for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil.' 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and she gave also unto her husband with her, and

he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves girdles. 8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden toward the cool of the day; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. 9 And the LORD God called unto the man, and said unto him: 'Where art thou?' 10 And he said: 'I heard Thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' 11 And He said: 'Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?' 12 And the man said: 'The woman whom Thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.' 13 And the LORD God said unto the woman: 'What is this thou hast done?' And the woman said: 'The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.' 14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent: 'Because thou hast done this, cursed art thou from among all cattle, and from among all beasts of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life. 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; they shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise their heel.'

16 Unto the woman He said: 'I will greatly multiply thy pain and thy travail; in pain thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.'

17 And unto Adam He said: 'Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying: Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in toil shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. 18 Thorns

also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field. 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.' 20 And the man called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. 21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins, and clothed them.

22 And the LORD God said: 'Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever.' 23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way to the tree of life.

The Call of Abraham

12 Now the LORD said unto Abram: 'Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto the land that I will show thee. 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and be thou a blessing. 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and him that curseth thee will I curse; and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' 4 So Abram went, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him; and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. 5 And Abram took

Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came. 6 And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Shechem, unto the terebinth of Morch. And the Canaanite was then in the land. 7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said: 'Unto thy seed will I give this land'; and he builded there an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. 8 And he removed from thence unto the mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, having Beth-el on the west, and Ai on the east; and he builded there an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

The Promised Land

13 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the South. 2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. 3 And he went on his journeys from the South even to Beth-el, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beth-el and Ai; 4 unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first; and Abram called there on the name of the LORD. 5 And Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. 6 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together; for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. 7 And there was a strife between the

herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle. And the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelt then in the land. 8 And Abram said unto Lot: 'Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we are brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left.' 10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou goest unto Zoar. 11 So Lot chose him all the plain of the Jordan; and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves the one from the other. 12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the Plain, and moved his tent as far as Sodom. 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners against the LORD exceedingly. 14 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him: 'Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art, northward and southward and eastward and westward; 15 for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. 16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth; so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. 17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for unto thee will I give it.' 18 And Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt by the terebinths of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.

Saving Power of Goodness

18 And the LORD appeared unto him by the terebinths of Mamre, as he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 2 and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood over against him; and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed down to the earth, 3 and said: 'My lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant. 4 Let now a little water be fetched, and wash your feet, and recline yourselves under the tree. 5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and stay ye your heart; after that ye shall pass on; forasmuch as ye are come to your servant.' And they said: 'So do, as thou hast said.' 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said: 'Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes.' 7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto the servant; and he hastened to dress it. 8 And he took curd, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat. 9 And they said unto him: 'Where is Sarah thy wife?' And he said: 'Behold, in the tent.' 10 And He said: 'I will certainly return unto thee when the season cometh round; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son.' And Sarah heard in the tent door, which was behind him.—11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and well stricken in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.—12 And Sarah laughed within herself, saying: 'After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?' 13 And the LORD said unto Abraham: 'Where-

fore did Sarah laugh, saying: Shall I of a surety bear a child, who am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the set time I will return unto thee, when the season cometh round, and Sarah shall have a son.' 15 Then Sarah denied, saying: 'I laughed not'; for she was afraid. And He said: 'Nay; but thou didst laugh.'

16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked out toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. 17 And the LORD said: 'Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing; 18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him.' 20 And the LORD said: 'Verily, the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, verily, their sin is exceeding grievous. 21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, I will know.' 22 And the men turned from thence, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the LORD. 23 And Abraham drew near, and said: 'Wilt Thou indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 Peradventure there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt Thou indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? 25 That be far from Thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, that so the righteous should be as the wicked; that be far

from Thee; shall not the Judge of all the earth do justly?' 26 And the LORD said: 'If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will forgive all the place for their sake.' 27 And Abraham answered and said: 'Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD, who am but dust and ashes. 28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; wilt Thou destroy all the city for lack of five?' And He said: 'I will not destroy it, if I find there forty and five.' 29 And he spoke unto Him yet again, and said: 'Peradventure there shall be forty found there.' And He said: 'I will not do it for the forty's sake.' 30 And he said: 'Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Peradventure there shall thirty be found there.' And He said: 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' 31 And he said: 'Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord. Peradventure there shall be twenty found there.' And He said: 'I will not destroy it for the twenty's sake.' 32 And he said: 'Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Peradventure ten shall be found there.' And He said: 'I will not destroy it for the ten's sake.' 33 And the LORD went His way, as soon as He had left off speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned unto his place.

Sarah and Hagar

21 And the LORD remembered Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as He had spoken. 2 And Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. 3 And Abraham called the name of his son

that was born unto him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac. 4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. 5 And Abraham was a hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him. 6 And Sarah said: 'God hath made laughter for me; every one that heareth will laugh on account of me.' 7 And she said: 'Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should give children suck? for I have borne him a son in his old age.'

8 And the child grew, and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. 9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne unto Abraham, making sport. 10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham: 'Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.' 11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight on account of his son. 12 And God said unto Abraham: 'Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah saith unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall seed be called to thee. 13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.' 14 And Abraham arose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away; and she departed, and strayed in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. 15 And the water in the bottle was spent, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs. 16 And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bowshot; for she said: 'Let me not look upon the death of

the child.' And she sat over against him, and lifted up her voice, and wept. 17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her: 'What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is. 18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him fast by thy hand; for I will make him a great nation.' 19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink. 20 And God was with the lad, and he grew; and he dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. 21 And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

22 And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phicol the captain of his host spoke unto Abraham, saying: 'God is with thee in all that thou doest. 23 Now therefore swear unto me here by God that thou wilt not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son; but according to the kindness that I have done unto thee, thou shalt do unto me, and to the land wherein thou hast sojourned.' 24 And Abraham said: 'I will swear.' 25 And Abraham reproved Abimelech because of the well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away. 26 And Abimelech said: 'I know not who hath done this thing; neither didst thou tell me, neither yet heard I of it, but to-day.' 27 And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and gave them unto Abimelech; and they two made a covenant. 28 And Abraham set seven ewe-lambs of the flock by themselves. 29 And Abimelech said unto Abraham: 'What mean these seven ewe-lambs which thou hast set by themselves?' 30 And he said: 'Verily,

these seven ewe-lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that it may be a witness unto me, that I have digged this well.' 31 Wherefore that place was called Beer-sheba; because there they swore both of them. 32 So they made a covenant at Beer-sheba; and Abimelech rose up, and Phicol the captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines. 33 And Abraham planted a tamarisk-tree in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. 34 And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines many days.

The Offering of Isaac

22 And it came to pass after these things, that God did prove Abraham, and said unto him: 'Abraham'; and he said: 'Here am I.' 2 And He said: 'Take now thy son, thine only son, whom thou lovest, even Isaac, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt-offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.' 3 And Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he cleaved the wood for the burnt-offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said unto his young men: 'Abide ye here with the ass, and I and the lad will go yonder; and we will worship, and come back to you.' 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife; and they went both of them to-

gether. 7 And Isaac spoke unto Abraham his father, and said: 'My father.' And he said: 'Here am I, my son.' And he said: 'Behold the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' 8 And Abraham said: 'God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So they went both of them together. 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said: 'Abraham, Abraham.' And he said: 'Here am I.' 12 And he said: 'Lay not thy hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him; for now I know that thou art a God-fearing man, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from Me.' 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt-offering in the stead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place Adonai-jireh; as it is said to this day: 'In the mount where the LORD is seen.' 15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: 'By Myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, 17 that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the seashore; and thy seed shall possess the gate

of his enemies; 18 and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast hearkened to My voice.' 19 So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba.

20 And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying: 'Behold, Milcah, she also hath borne children unto thy brother Nahor: 21 Uz his first-born, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram; 22 and Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel.', 23 And Bethuel begot Rebekah; these eight did Milcah bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother. 24 And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, she also bore Tebah, and Gaham, and Tahash, and Maacah.

Searching for a Good Wife

24 And Abraham was old, well stricken in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. 2 And Abraham said unto his servant, the elder of his house, that ruled over all that he had: 'Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh. 3 And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell. 4 But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son, even for Isaac.' 5 And the servant said unto him: 'Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land; must I needs bring thy son back unto the land from whence thou camest?' 6 And Abra-

ham said unto him: 'Beware thou that thou bring not my son back thither. 7 The LORD, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house, and from the land of my nativity, and who spoke unto me, and who swore unto me, saying: Unto thy seed will I give this land; He will send His angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife for my son from thence. 8 And if the woman be not willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath; only thou shalt not bring my son back thither.' 9 And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter. 10 And the servant took ten camels, of the camels of his master, and departed; having all goodly things of his master's in his hand; and he arose, and went to Aram-naharaim, unto the city of Nahor. 11 And he made the camels to kneel down without the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time that women go out to draw water. 12 And he said: 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, send me, I pray Thee, good speed this day, and show kindness unto my master Abraham. 13 Behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water. 14 So let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say: Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say: Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also; let the same be she that Thou hast appointed for Thy servant, even for Isaac; and thereby shall I know that Thou hast shown kindness unto my master.' 15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with

her pitcher upon her shoulder. 16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her; and she went down to the fountain, and filled her pitcher, and came up. 17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said: 'Give me to drink, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher.' 18 And she said: 'Drink, my lord'; and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. 19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said: 'I will draw for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.' 20 And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw, and drew for all his camels. 21 And the man looked stedfastly on her; holding his peace, to know whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not. 22 And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden ring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold; 23 and said: 'Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee. Is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?' 24 And she said unto him: 'I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore unto Nahor.' 25 She said moreover unto him: 'We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.' 26 And the man bowed his head, and prostrated himself before the LORD. 27 And he said: 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who hath not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master; as for me, the LORD hath led me in the way to the house of my master's brethren.' 28 And the damsel ran, and told her mother's house according to these words. 29 And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban; and Laban

ran out unto the man, unto the fountain. 30 And it came to pass, when he saw the ring, and the bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying: 'Thus spoke the man unto me,' that he came unto the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the fountain. 31 And he said: 'Come in, thou blessed of the LORD; wherefore standest thou without? for I have cleared the house, and made room for the camels.' 32 And the man came into the house, and he ungirded the camels; and he gave straw and provender for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men that were with him. 33 And there was set food before him to eat; but he said: 'I will not eat, until I have told mine errand.' And he said: 'Speak on.' 34 And he said: 'I am Abraham's servant. 35 And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great; and He hath given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and men-servants and maid-servants, and camels and asses. 36 And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and unto him hath he given all that he hath. 37 And my master made me swear, saying: Thou shalt not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell. 38 But thou shalt go unto my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son. 39 And I said unto my master: Peradventure the woman will not follow me. 40 And he said unto me: The LORD, before whom I walk, will send His angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house; 41 then shalt thou be clear from my oath, when thou comest to my kindred; and if they give her not to thee, thou

shalt be clear from my oath. 42 And I came this day unto the fountain, and said: O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now Thou do prosper my way which I go: 43 behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and let it come to pass, that the maiden that cometh forth to draw, to whom I shall say: Give me, I pray thee, a little water from thy pitcher to drink; 44 and she shall say to me: Both drink thou, and I will also draw for thy camels; let the same be the woman whom the LORD hath appointed for my master's son. 45 And before I had done speaking to my heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down unto the fountain, and drew. And I said unto her: Let me drink, I pray thee. 46 And she made haste, and let down her pitcher from her shoulder, and said: Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also. So I drank, and she made the camels drink also. 47 And I asked her, and said: Whose daughter art thou? And she said: The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore unto him. And I put the ring upon her nose, and the bracelets upon her hands. 48 And I bowed my head, and prostrated myself before the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter for his son. 49 And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left.' 50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said: 'The thing proceedeth from the LORD; we cannot speak unto thee bad or good. 51 Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the LORD hath spoken.' 52 And it came to pass, that, when

Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself down to the earth unto the LORD. 53 And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and gave them to Rebekah; he gave also to her brother and to her mother precious things. 54 And they did eat and drink, he and the men that were with him, and tarried all night; and they rose up in the morning, and he said: 'Send me away unto my master.' 55 And her brother and her mother said: 'Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go.' 56 And he said unto them: 'Delay me not, seeing the LORD hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master.' 57 And they said: 'We will call the damsel, and inquire at her mouth.' 58 And they called Rebekah, and said unto her: 'Wilt thou go with this man?' And she said: 'I will go.' 59 And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men. 60 And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her: 'Our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of ten thousands, and let thy seed possess the gate of those that hate them.' 61 And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. 62 And Isaac came from the way of Beer-lahai-roi; for he dwelt in the land of the South. 63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide; and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, there were camels coming. 64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she alighted from the camel. 65 And she said unto the servant: 'What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us?' And the servant said: 'It is my master.' And she

took her veil, and covered herself. 66 And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. 67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted for his mother.

Joseph and His Brethren

39 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hand of the Ishmaelites, that had brought him down thither. 2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. 3 And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand. 4 And Joseph found favour in his sight, and he ministered unto him. And he appointed him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand. 5 And it came to pass from the time that he appointed him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had, in the house and in the field. 6 And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and, having him, he knew not aught save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was of beautiful form, and fair to look upon.

7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said: 'Lie with me.' 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife: 'Behold, my

master, having me, knoweth not what is in the house, and he hath put all that he hath into my hand; 9 he is not greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' 10 And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her. 11 And it came to pass on a certain day, when he went into the house to do his work, and there was none of the men of the house there within, 12 that she caught him by his garment, saying: 'Lie with me.' And he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out. 13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, 14 that she called unto the men of her house, and spoke unto them, saying: 'See, he hath brought in a Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice. 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment by me, and fled, and got him out.' 16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his master came home. 17 And she spoke unto him according to these words, saying: 'The Hebrew servant, whom thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me. 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment by me, and fled out.' 19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke unto him, saying: 'After this manner did thy servant to me'; that his wrath was kindled. 20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound; and he was

there in the prison. 21 But the LORD was with Joseph, and showed kindness unto him, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison. 22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it. 23 The keeper of the prison looked not to any thing that was under his hand, because the LORD was with him; and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

40 And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt. 2 And Pharaoh was wroth against his two officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers. 3 And he put them in ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. 4 And the captain of the guard charged Joseph to be with them, and he ministered unto them; and they continued a season in ward. 5 And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream, in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison. 6 And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and saw them, and, behold, they were sad. 7 And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his master's house, saying: 'Wherefore look ye so sad to-day?' 8 And they said unto him: 'We have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it.' And Joseph said unto them: 'Do not interpretations belong to God? tell it me, I pray

you.' 9 And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him: 'In my dream, behold, a vine was before me; 10 and in the vine were three branches; and as it was budding, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters thereof brought forth ripe grapes; 11 and Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.' 12 And Joseph said unto him: 'This is the interpretation of it: the three branches are three days; 13 within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head, and restore thee unto thine office; and thou shalt give Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when thou wast his butler. 14 But have me in thy remembrance when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house. 15 For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews; and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon.' 16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said unto Joseph: 'I also saw in my dream, and, behold, three baskets of white bread were on my head; 17 and in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of baked food for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head.' 18 And Joseph answered and said: 'This is the interpretation thereof: the three baskets are three days; 19 within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee.' 20 And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his

servants; and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and the head of the chief baker among his servants. 21 And he restored the chief butler back unto his butlership; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. 22 But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. 23 Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him.

41 And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river. 2 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, well-favoured and fat-fleshed; and they fed in the reed-grass. 3 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill-favoured and lean-fleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river. 4 And the ill-favoured and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well-favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke. 5 And he slept and dreamed a second time; and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good. 6 And, behold, seven ears, thin and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them. 7 And the thin ears swallowed up the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. 8 And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof; and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh. 9 Then spoke the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying: 'I make mention of my faults this day: 10 Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in the ward of the house of the captain of the guard, me and the chief

baker. 11 And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. 12 And there was with us there a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret. 13 And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was: I was restored unto mine office, and he was hanged.' 14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon. And he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh. 15 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph: 'I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it; and I have heard say of thee, that when thou hearest a dream thou canst interpret it.' 16 And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying: 'It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.' 17 And Pharaoh spoke unto Joseph: 'In my dream, behold, I stood upon the brink of the river. 18 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fat-fleshed and well-favoured; and they fed in the reed-grass. 19 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill-favoured and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness. 20 And the lean and ill-favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine. 21 And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill-favoured as at the beginning. So I awoke. 22 And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up upon one stalk, full and good. 23 And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung

up after them. 24 And the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. And I told it unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.' 25 And Joseph said unto Pharaoh: 'The dream of Pharaoh is one; what God is about to do He hath declared unto Pharaoh. 26 The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. 27 And the seven lean and ill-favoured kine that came up after them are seven years, and also the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind; they shall be seven years of famine. 28 That is the thing which I spoke unto Pharaoh: what God is about to do He hath shown unto Pharaoh. 29 Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. 30 And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land; 31 and the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine which followeth; for it shall be very grievous. 32 And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice, it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. 33 Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint overseers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven years of plenty. 35 And let them gather all the food of these good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. 36 And the food shall be for a store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the

land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.' 37 And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said unto his servants: 'Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom the spirit of God is?' 39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph: 'Forasmuch as God hath shown thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou. 40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled; only in the throne will I be greater than thou.' 41 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph: 'See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.' 42 And Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck. 43 And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him: 'Abrech'; and he set him over all the land of Egypt. 44 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph: 'I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or his foot in all the land of Egypt.' 45 And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphenath-paneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Poti-phera priest of On. And Joseph went out over the land of Egypt.— 46 And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt.—And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt. 47 And in the seven years of plenty the earth brought forth in heaps. 48 And he gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities; the food of the field, which was round about every city, laid he up in the same.

49 And Joseph laid up corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until they left off numbering; for it was without number. 50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the year of famine came, whom Asenath the daughter of Poti-phera priest of On bore unto him. 51 And Joseph called the name of the first-born Manasseh: 'for God hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house.' 52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: 'for God hath made me fruitful in the land of my affliction.' 53 And the seven years of plenty, that was in the land of Egypt, came to an end. 54 And the seven years of famine began to come, according as Joseph had said; and there was famine in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. 55 And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said unto all the Egyptians: 'Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do.' 56 And the famine was over all the face of the earth; and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine was sore in the land of Egypt. 57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy corn; because the famine was sore in all the earth.

42 Now Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, and Jacob said unto his sons: 'Why do ye look one upon another?' 2 And he said: 'Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt. Get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die.' 3 And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn from Egypt. 4 But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not with his breth-

ren; for he said: 'Lest peradventure harm befall him.' 5 And the sons of Israel came to buy among those that came; for the famine was in the land of Canaan. 6 And Joseph was the governor over the land; he it was that sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down to him with their faces to the earth. 7 And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spoke roughly with them; and he said unto them: 'Whence come ye?' And they said: 'From the land of Canaan to buy food.' 8 And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him. 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them: 'Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.' 10 And they said unto him: 'Nay, my lord, but to buy food are thy servants come. 11 We are all one man's sons; we are upright men, thy servants are no spies.' 12 And he said unto them: 'Nay, but to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.' 13 And they said: 'We thy servants are twelve brethren, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not.' 14 And Joseph said unto them: 'That is it that I spoke unto you, saying: Ye are spies. 15 Hereby ye shall be proved: as Pharaoh liveth, ye shall not go forth hence, except your youngest brother come hither. 16 Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and ye shall be bound, that your words may be proved, whether there be truth in you; or else, as Pharaoh liveth, surely ye are spies.' 17 And he put them all together into ward three days. 18 And Joseph said unto them the third day: 'This do, and

live; for I fear God: 19 if ye be upright men, let one of your brethren be bound in your prison-house; but go ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses; 20 and bring your youngest brother unto me; so shall your words be verified, and ye shall not die.' And they did so. 21 And they said one to another: 'We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.' 22 And Reuben answered them, saying: 'Spoke I not unto you, saying: Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore also, behold, his blood is required.' 23 And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for the interpreter was between them. 24 And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and he returned to them, and spoke to them, and took Simeon from among them, and bound him before their eyes. 25 Then Joseph commanded to fill their vessels with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way; and thus was it done unto them. 26 And they laded their asses with their corn, and departed thence. 27 And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender in the lodging-place, he espied his money; and, behold, it was in the mouth of his sack. 28 And he said unto his brethren: 'My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack.' And their heart failed them, and they turned trembling one to another, saying: 'What is this that God hath done unto us?' 29 And they came unto Jacob their father unto the land of Canaan, and told him all that had befallen them, saying: 30 'The man, the lord of the land, spoke

roughly with us, and took us for spies of the country. 31 And we said unto him: We are upright men; we are no spies. 32 We are twelve brethren, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan. 33 And the man, the lord of the land, said unto us: Hereby shall I know that ye are upright men: leave one of your brethren with me, and take corn for the famine of your houses, and go your way. 34 And bring your youngest brother unto me; then shall I know that ye are no spies, but that ye are upright men; so will I deliver you your brother, and ye shall traffic in the land.' 35 And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack; and when they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were afraid. 36 And Jacob their father said unto them: 'Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away; upon me are all these things come.' 37 And Reuben spoke unto his father, saying: 'Thou shalt slay my two sons, if I bring him not to thee; deliver him into my hand, and I will bring him back to thee.' 38 And he said: 'My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he only is left; if harm befall him by the way in which ye go, then will ye bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.'

43 And the famine was sore in the land. 2 And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, that their father said unto them: 'Go again, buy us a little food.' 3 And Judah

spoke unto him, saying: 'The man did earnestly forewarn us, saying: Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you. 4 If thou wilt send our brother with us, we will go down and buy thee food; 5 but if thou wilt not send him, we will not go down, for the man said unto us: Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.' 6 And Israel said: 'Wherefore dealt ye so ill with me, as to tell the man whether ye had yet a brother?' 7 And they said: 'The man asked straitly concerning ourselves, and concerning our kindred, saying: Is your father yet alive? have ye another brother? and we told him according to the tenor of these words; could we in any wise know that he would say: Bring your brother down?' 8 And Judah said unto Israel his father: 'Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live, and not die, both we, and thou, and also our little ones. 9 I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him; if I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever. 10 For except we had lingered, surely we had now returned a second time.' 11 And their father Israel said unto them: 'If it be so now, do this: take of the choice fruits of the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spicery and ladanum, nuts, and almonds; 12 and take double money in your hand; and the money that was returned in the mouth of your sacks carry back in your hand; peradventure it was an oversight; 13 take also your brother, and arise, go again unto the man; 14 and God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may release unto you your other brother

and Benjamin. And as for me, if I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.'

15 And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph. 16 And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house: 'Bring the men into the house, and kill the beasts, and prepare the meat; for the men shall dine with me at noon.' 17 And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house. 18 And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house; and they said: 'Because of the money that was returned in our sacks at the first time are we brought in; that he may seek occasion against us, and fall upon us, and take us for bondmen, and our asses.' 19 And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they spoke unto him at the door of the house, 20 and said: 'Oh my lord, we came indeed down at the first time to buy food. 21 And it came to pass, when we came to the lodging-place, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight; and we have brought it back in our hand. 22 And other money have we brought down in our hand to buy food. We know not who put our money in our sacks.' 23 And he said: 'Peace be to you, fear not; your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks; I had your money.' And he brought Simeon out unto them. 24 And the man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet; and he gave their asses provender. 25 And

they made ready the present against Joseph's coming at noon; for they heard that they should eat bread there. 26 And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed down to him to the earth. 27 And he asked them of their welfare, and said: 'Is your father well, the old man of whom ye spoke? Is he yet alive?' 28 And they said: 'Thy servant our father is well, he is yet alive.' And they bowed the head, and made obeisance. 29 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw Benjamin his brother, his mother's son, and said: 'Is this your youngest brother of whom ye spoke unto me?' And he said: 'God be gracious unto thee, my son.' 30 And Joseph made haste; for his heart yearned toward his brother; and he sought where to weep; and he entered into his chamber, and wept there. 31 And he washed his face, and came out; and he refrained himself, and said: 'Set on bread.' 32 And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, that did eat with him, by themselves; because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians. 33 And they sat before him, the first-born according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth; and the men marvelled one with another. 34 And portions were taken unto them from before him; but Benjamin's portion was five times so much as any of theirs. And they drank, and were merry with him.

44 And he commanded the steward of his house, saying: 'Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth. 2 And put

my goblet, the silver goblet, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his corn money.' And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken. 3 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their asses. 4 And when they were gone out of the city, and were not yet far off, Joseph said unto his steward: 'Up, follow after the men; and when thou dost overtake them, say unto them: Wherefore have ye rewarded evil for good? 5 Is not this it in which my lord drinketh, and whereby he indeed divineth? ye have done evil in so doing.' 6 And he overtook them, and he spoke unto them these words. 7 And they said unto him: 'Wherefore speaketh my lord such words as these? Far be it from thy servants that they should do such a thing. 8 Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought back unto thee out of the land of Canaan; how then should we steal out of thy lord's house silver or gold? 9 With whomsoever of thy servants it be found, let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen.' 10 And he said: 'Now also let it be according unto your words: he with whom it is found shall be my bondman; and ye shall be blameless.' 11 Then they hastened, and took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack. 12 And he searched, beginning at the eldest, and leaving off at the youngest; and the goblet was found in Benjamin's sack. 13 Then they rent their clothes, and laded every man his ass, and returned to the city. 14 And Judah and his brethren came to Joseph's house, and he was yet there; and they fell before him on the ground. 15 And Joseph said unto them: 'What

deed is this that ye have done? know ye not that such a man as I will indeed divine?' 16 And Judah said: 'What shall we say unto my lord? what shall we speak? or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants; behold, we are my lord's bondmen, both we, and he also in whose hand the cup is found.' 17 And he said: 'Far be it from me that I should do so; the man in whose hand the goblet is found, he shall be my bondman; but as for you, get you up in peace unto your father.'

18 Then Judah came near unto him, and said: 'Oh my lord, let thy servant, I pray thee, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not thine anger burn against thy servant; for thou art even as Pharaoh. 19. My lord asked his servants, saying: Have ye a father, or a brother? 20 And we said unto my lord: We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loveth him. 21 And thou saidst unto thy servants: Bring him down unto me, that I may set mine eyes upon him. 22 And we said unto my lord: The lad cannot leave his father; for if he should leave his father, his father would die. 23 And thou saidst unto thy servants: Except your youngest brother come down with you, ye shall see my face no more. 24 And it came to pass when we came up unto thy servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. 25 And our father said: Go again, buy us a little food. 26 And we said: We cannot go down; if our youngest brother be with us, then will we go down; for we may not see the man's face, except our youngest brother be with us. 27 And thy

servant my father said unto us: Ye know that my wife bore me two sons; 28 and the one went out from me, and I said: Surely he is torn in pieces; and I have not seen him since; 29 and if ye take this one also from me, and harm befall him, ye will bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave. 30 Now therefore when I come to thy servant my father, and the lad is not with us; seeing that his soul is bound up with the lad's soul; 31 it will come to pass, when he seeth that the lad is not with us, that he will die; and thy servants will bring down the gray hairs of thy servant our father with sorrow to the grave. 32 For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying: If I bring him not unto thee, then shall I bear the blame to my father for ever. 33 Now therefore, let thy servant, I pray thee, abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren. 34 For how shall I go up to my father, if the lad be not with me? lest I look upon the evil that shall come on my father.'

45 Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried: 'Cause every man to go out from me.' And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren. 2 And he wept aloud; and the Egyptians heard, and the house of Pharaoh heard. 3 And Joseph said unto his brethren: 'I am Joseph; doth my father yet live?' And his brethren could not answer him; for they were affrighted at his presence. 4 And Joseph said unto his brethren: 'Come near to me, I pray you.' And they came near. And he said: 'I am Joseph your brother,

whom ye sold into Egypt. 5 And now be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither; for God did send me before you to preserve life. 6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land; and there are yet five years, in which there shall be neither plowing nor harvest. 7 And God sent me before you to give you a remnant on the earth, and to save you alive for a great deliverance. 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God; and He hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and ruler over all the land of Egypt. 9 Hasten ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him: Thus saith thy son Joseph: God hath made me lord of all Egypt; come down unto me, tarry not. 10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast; 11 and there will I sustain thee; for there are yet five years of famine; lest thou come to poverty, thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast. 12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you. 13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall hasten and bring down my father hither.' 14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck. 15 And he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them; and after that his brethren talked with him.

16 And the report thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying: 'Joseph's brethren are come'; and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants. 17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph:

'Say unto thy brethren: This do ye: lade your
beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;
18 and take your father and your households,
and come unto me; and I will give you the good
of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat
of the land. 19 Now thou art commanded,
this do ye: take you wagons out of the land
of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives,
and bring your father, and come. 20 Also re-
gard not your stuff; for the good things of all
the land of Egypt are yours.' 21 And the sons
of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons,
according to the commandment of Pharaoh,
and gave them provision for the way. 22 To
all of them he gave each man changes of
raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hun-
dred shekels of silver, and five changes of
raiment. 23 And to his father he sent in like
manner ten asses laden with the good things of
Egypt, and ten she-asses laden with corn and
bread and victual for his father by the way.
24 So he sent his brethren away, and they de-
parted; and he said unto them: 'See that ye
fall not out by the way.' 25 And they went
up out of Egypt, and came into the land of
Canaan unto Jacob their father. 26 And they
told him, saying: 'Joseph is yet alive, and he is
ruler over all the land of Egypt.' And his heart
fainted, for he believed them not. 27 And they
told him all the words of Joseph, which he had
said unto them; and when he saw the wagons
which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit
of Jacob their father revived. 28 And Israel
said: 'It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive;
I will go and see him before I die.'

Jacob Goes to Egypt

46 And Israel took his journey with all that
he had, and came to Beer-sheba, and of-
fered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac.
2 And God spoke unto Israel in the visions of
the night, and said: 'Jacob, Jacob.' And he
said: 'Here am I.' 3 And He said: 'I am God,
the God of thy father; fear not to go down into
Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great
nation. 4 I will go down with thee into
Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up
again; and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine
eyes.' 5 And Jacob rose up from Beer-sheba;
and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father,
and their little ones, and their wives, in the
wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him.
6 And they took their cattle, and their goods,
which they had gotten in the land of Canaan,
and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed
with him; 7 his sons, and his sons' sons with
him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and
all his seed brought he with him into Egypt.

The Settlement in Egypt

47 Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh,
and said: 'My father and my brethren,
and their flocks, and their herds, and all that
they have, are come out of the land of Canaan;
and, behold, they are in the land of Goshen.'
2 And from among his brethren he took five
men, and presented them unto Pharaoh. 3 And
Pharaoh said unto his brethren: 'What is your
occupation?' And they said unto Pharaoh: 'Thy

servants are shepherds, both we, and our fathers.' 4 And they said unto Pharaoh: 'To sojourn in the land are we come; for there is no pasture for thy servants' flocks; for the famine is sore in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen.' 5 And Pharaoh spoke unto Joseph, saying: 'Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee; 6 the land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and thy brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell. And if thou knowest any able men among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.' 7 And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh. And Jacob blessed Pharaoh. 8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob: 'How many are the days of the years of thy life?' 9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh: 'The days of the years of my sojournings are a hundred and thirty years; few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojournings.' 10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from the presence of Pharaoh. 11 And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. 12 And Joseph sustained his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to the want of their little ones.

EXODUS

Birth of Moses

2 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. 2 And the woman conceived, and bore a son; and when she saw him that he was a goodly child she hid him three months. 3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch; and she put the child therein, and laid it in the flags by the river's brink. 4 And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him. 5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe in the river; and her maidens walked along by the river-side; and she saw the ark among the flags, and sent her handmaid to fetch it. 6 And she opened it, and saw it, even the child; and behold a boy that wept. And she had compassion on him, and said: 'This is one of the Hebrews' children.' 7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter: 'Shall I go and call thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?' 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her: 'Go.' And the maiden went and called the child's mother. 9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her: 'Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages.' And the woman took the child, and nursed it. 10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses, and said: 'Because I drew him out of the water.'

11 And it came to pass in those days, when
Moses was grown up, that he went out unto his
brethren, and looked on their burdens; and he
saw an Egyptian smiting a Hebrew, one of his
brethren. 12 And he looked this way and that
way, and when he saw that there was no man,
he smote the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.
13 And he went out the second day, and, be-
hold, two men of the Hebrews were striving to-
gether; and he said to him that did the wrong:
'Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?' 14 And he
said: 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge over
us? thinkest thou to kill me, as thou didst kill
the Egyptian?' And Moses feared, and said:
'Surely the thing is known.' 15 Now when Pha-
raoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses.
But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and
dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down
by a well.

The Burning Bush

23 And it came to pass in the course of those
many days that the king of Egypt died; and the
children of Israel sighed by reason of the bond-
age, and they cried, and their cry came up unto
God by reason of the bondage. 24 And God
heard their groaning, and God remembered His
covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with
Jacob. 25 And God saw the children of Israel,
and God took cognizance of them.

3 Now Moses was keeping the flock of Jethro
his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and
he led the flock to the farthest end of the wil-
derness, and came to the mountain of God, unto
Horeb. 2 And the angel of the LORD appeared
unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of

a bush; and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said: 'I will turn aside now, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.' 4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said: 'Moses, Moses.' And he said: 'Here am I.' 5 And He said: 'Draw not nigh hither; put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.' 6 Moreover He said: 'I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. 7 And the LORD said: 'I have surely seen the affliction of My people that are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their pains; 8 and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. 9 And now, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto Me; moreover I have seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. 10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth My people the children of Israel out of Egypt.' 11 And Moses said unto God: 'Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?' 12 And He said: 'Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be the token unto thee, that I have sent thee: when thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve

God upon this mountain.' 13 And Moses said unto God: 'Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them: The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me: What is His name? what shall I say unto them?' 14 And God said unto Moses: 'I AM THAT I AM'; and He said: 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel: I AM hath sent me unto you.' 15 And God said moreover unto Moses: 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you; this is My name for ever, and this is My memorial unto all generations. 16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, hath appeared unto me, saying: I have surely remembered you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt. 17 And I have said: I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. 18 And they shall hearken to thy voice. And thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him: The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, hath met with us. And now let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God. 19 And I know that the king of Egypt will not give you leave to go, except by a mighty hand. 20 And I will put forth My hand, and smite Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in the midst thereof. And after that he will let you go.'

Moses before Pharaoh

4 27 And the LORD said to Aaron: 'Go into
the wilderness to meet Moses.' And he went,
and met him in the mountain of God, and kissed
him. 28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of
the LORD wherewith He had sent him, and all the
signs wherewith He had charged him. 29 And
Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all
the elders of the children of Israel. 30 And
Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had
spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the
sight of the people. 31 And the people be-
lieved; and when they heard that the LORD had
remembered the children of Israel, and that He
had seen their affliction, then they bowed their
heads and worshipped.

5 And afterward Moses and Aaron came, and
said unto Pharaoh: 'Thus saith the LORD,
the God of Israel: Let My people go, that they
may hold a feast unto Me in the wilderness.'
2 And Pharaoh said: 'Who is the LORD, that I
should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go?
I know not the LORD, and moreover I will not
let Israel go.' 3 And they said: 'The God of the
Hebrews hath met with us. Let us go, we pray
thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, and
sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest He fall
upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.'
4 And the king of Egypt said unto them: 'Where-
fore do ye, Moses and Aaron, cause the people
to break loose from their work? get you unto
your burdens.' 5 And Pharaoh said: 'Behold,
the people of the land are now many, and will
ye make them rest from their burdens?' 6 And
the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmas-

ters of the people, and their officers, saying:
7 'Ye shall no more give the people straw to
make brick, as heretofore. Let them go and
gather straw for themselves. 8 And the tale of
the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye
shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish
aught thereof; for they are idle; therefore they
cry, saying: Let us go and sacrifice to our God.
9 Let heavier work be laid upon the men, that
they may labour therein; and let them not re-
gard lying words.' 10 And the taskmasters of
the people went out, and their officers, and they
spoke to the people, saying: 'Thus saith Pharaoh:
I will not give you straw. 11 Go yourselves, get
you straw where ye can find it; for nought of
your work shall be diminished.' 12 So the peo-
ple were scattered abroad throughout all the land
of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. 13 And
the taskmasters were urgent, saying: 'Fulfil your
work, your daily task, as when there was straw.'
14 And the officers of the children of Israel, whom
Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were
beaten, saying: 'Wherefore have ye not fulfilled
your appointed task in making brick both yes-
terday and to-day as heretofore?' 15 Then the
officers of the children of Israel came and cried
unto Pharaoh, saying: 'Wherefore dealest thou
thus with thy servants? 16 There is no straw
given unto thy servants, and they say to us: Make
brick; and, behold, thy servants are beaten, but
the fault is in thine own people.' 17 But he
said: 'Ye are idle, ye are idle; therefore ye say:
Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD. 18 Go
therefore now, and work; for there shall no straw
be given you, yet shall ye deliver the tale of
bricks.' 19 And the officers of the children of
Israel did see that they were set on mischief,

when they said: 'Ye shall not diminish aught from your bricks, your daily task.' 20 And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh; 21 and they said unto them: 'The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.' 22 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said: 'Lord, wherefore hast Thou dealt ill with this people? why is it that Thou hast sent me? 23 For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Thy name, he hath dealt ill with this people; neither hast Thou delivered Thy people at all.'

The First Passover

12 And the LORD spoke unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying: 2 'This month shall be unto you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying: In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household; 4 and if the household be too little for a lamb, then shall he and his neighbour next unto his house take one according to the number of the souls; according to every man's eating ye shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year; ye shall take it from the sheep, or from the goats; 6 and ye shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at dusk.

7 And they shall take of the blood, and put it
on the two side-posts and on the lintel, upon
the houses wherein they shall eat it. 8 And they
shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire,
and unleavened bread; with bitter herbs they
shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at
all with water, but roast with fire; its head with
its legs and with the inwards thereof. 10 And
ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morn
ing; but that which remaineth of it until the
morning ye shall burn with fire. 11 And thus
shall ye eat it: with your loins girded, your shoes
on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and
ye shall eat it in haste—it is the LORD's passover.
12 For I will go through the land of Egypt in
that night, and will smite all the first-born in
the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and
against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judg-
ments: I am the LORD. 13 And the blood shall
be to you for a token upon the houses where ye
are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over
you, and there shall no plague be upon you to
destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.
14 And this day shall be unto you for a memo-
rial, and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD;
throughout your generations ye shall keep it a
feast by an ordinance for ever. 15 Seven days
shall ye eat unleavened bread; howbeit the first
day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses;
for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the
first day until the seventh day, that soul shall
be cut off from Israel. 16 And in the first day
there shall be to you a holy convocation, and in
the seventh day a holy convocation; no manner
of work shall be done in them, save that which

every man must eat, that only may be done by you. 17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt; therefore shall ye observe this day throughout your generations by an ordinance for ever. 18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. 19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses; for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a sojourner, or one that is born in the land. 20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.'

21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them: 'Draw out, and take you lambs according to your families, and kill the passover lamb. 22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side-posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. 23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side-posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. 24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. 25 And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as He hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. 26 And it shall

come to pass, when your children shall say unto you: What mean ye by this service? 27 that ye shall say: It is the sacrifice of the LORD's passover, for that He passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when He smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses.' And the people bowed the head and worshipped. 28 And the children of Israel went and did so; as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

29 And it came to pass at midnight, that the LORD smote all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the first-born of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the first-born of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead. 31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said: 'Rise up, get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said. 32 Take both your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.' 33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, to send them out of the land in haste; for they said: 'We are all dead men.' 34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading-troughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders. 35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they asked of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment. 36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians,

so that they let them have what they asked. And they despoiled the Egyptians.

37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, beside children. 38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle. 39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual. 40 Now the time that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. 41 And it came to pass at the end of four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. 42 It was a night of watching unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt; this same night is a night of watching unto the LORD for all the children of Israel throughout their generations.

43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron: 'This is the ordinance of the passover: there shall no alien eat thereof; 44 but every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. 45 A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat thereof. 46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth aught of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the

LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land; but no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. 49 One law shall be to him that is home-born, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.' 50 Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

51 And it came to pass the selfsame day that the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.

The Exodus from Egypt

13 17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not by the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said: 'Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt.' 18 But God led the people about, by the way of the wilderness by the Red Sea; and the children of Israel went up armed out of the land of Egypt. 19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him; for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying: 'God will surely remember you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.' 20 And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness. 21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; that they might go by day and by night: 22 the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night, departed not from before the people.

14 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
2 'Speak unto the children of Israel, that
they turn back and encamp before Pi-hahiroth,
between Migdol and the sea, before Baal-zephon,
over against it shall ye encamp by the sea. 3 And
Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel: They
are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath
shut them in. 4 And I will harden Pharaoh's
heart, and he shall follow after them; and I will
get Me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his
host; and the Egyptians shall know that I am
the LORD.' And they did so. 5 And it was told
the king of Egypt that the people were fled; and
the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was
turned towards the people, and they said: 'What
is this we have done, that we have let Israel go
from serving us?' 6 And he made ready his
chariots, and took his people with him. 7 And
he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the
chariots of Egypt, and captains over all of them.
8 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh
king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children
of Israel; for the children of Israel went out
with a high hand. 9 And the Egyptians pur-
sued after them, all the horses and chariots of
Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and
overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pi-
hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon. 10 And when
Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted
up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians were
marching after them; and they were sore afraid;
and the children of Israel cried out unto the
LORD. 11 And they said unto Moses: 'Because
there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken
us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast

thou dealt thus with us, to bring us forth out of Egypt? 12 Is not this the word that we spoke unto thee in Egypt, saying: Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it were better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.' 13 And Moses said unto the people: 'Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will work for you to-day; for whereas ye have seen the Egyptians to-day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. 14 The LORD will fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.'

15 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Wherefore criest thou unto Me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward. 16 And lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thy hand over the sea, and divide it; and the children of Israel shall go into the midst of the sea on dry ground. 17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall go in after them; and I will get Me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. 18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten Me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.' 19 And the angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud removed from before them, and stood behind them; 20 and it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel; and there was the cloud and the darkness here, yet gave it light by night there; and the one came not near the other all the night. 21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused

the sea to go back by a strong east wind all the night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. 23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. 24 And it came to pass in the morning watch, that the LORD looked forth upon the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of cloud, and discomfited the host of the Egyptians. 25 And He took off their chariot wheels, and made them to drive heavily; so that the Egyptians said: 'Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.'

26 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Stretch out thy hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.' 27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, even all the host of Pharaoh that went in after them into the sea; there remained not so much as one of them. 29 But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. 30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea-

shore. 31 And Israel saw the great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians, and the people feared the LORD; and they believed in the LORD, and in His servant Moses.

15 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spoke, saying:

I will sing unto the LORD, for He is highly exalted;
The horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

2 The LORD is my strength and song,
And He is become my salvation;
This is my God, and I will glorify Him;
My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

3 The LORD is a man of war,
The LORD is His name.

4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea,
And his chosen captains are sunk in the Red Sea.

5 The deeps cover them—
They went down into the depths like a stone.

6 Thy right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,
Thy right hand, O LORD, dasheth in pieces the enemy.

7 And in the greatness of Thine excellency
Thou overthrowest them that rise up against Thee;
Thou sendest forth Thy wrath, it consumeth them as stubble.

8 And with the blast of Thy nostrils the waters were piled up—
The floods stood upright as a heap;
The deeps were congealed in the heart of the sea.

9 The enemy said:
'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil;
My lust shall be satisfied upon them;
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

10 Thou didst blow with Thy wind, the sea covered them;
They sank as lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who is like unto Thee, O LORD, among the mighty?
Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness,
Fearful in praises, doing wonders?

12 Thou stretchedst out Thy right hand—
The earth swallowed them.

13 Thou in Thy love hast led the people that Thou hast redeemed;
Thou hast guided them in Thy strength to Thy holy habitation.

14 The peoples have heard, they tremble;
Pangs have taken hold on the inhabitants of Philistia.

15 Then were the chiefs of Edom affrighted;
The mighty men of Moab, trembling taketh hold upon them;
All the inhabitants of Canaan are melted away.

16 Terror and dread falleth upon them;
By the greatness of Thine arm they are as
still as a stone;
Till Thy people pass over, O LORD,
Till the people pass over that Thou hast
gotten.
17 Thou bringest them in, and plantest them
in the mountain of Thine inheritance,
The place, O LORD, which Thou hast made
for Thee to dwell in,
The sanctuary, O LORD, which Thy hands
have established.
18 The LORD shall reign for ever and ever.

The Manna

16 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron in the wilderness; 3 and the children of Israel said unto them: 'Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh-pots, when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

4 Then said the LORD unto Moses: 'Behold, I will cause to rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's

portion every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in My law, or not. 5 And it shall come to pass on the sixth day that they shall prepare that which they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.' 6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel: 'At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt; 7 and in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that He hath heard your murmurings against the LORD; and what are we, that ye murmur against us?' 8 And Moses said: 'This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against Him; and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.' 9 And Moses said unto Aaron: 'Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel: Come near before the LORD; for He hath heard your murmurings.' 10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spoke unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: 12 'I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel. Speak unto them, saying: At dusk ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.' 13 And it came to pass at even, that the quails came up, and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew round about the camp. 14 And when the layer of dew was

gone up, behold upon the face of the wilderness a fine, scale-like thing, fine as the hoar-frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another: 'What is it?'—for they knew not what it was. And Moses said unto them: 'It is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. 16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded: Gather ye of it every man according to his eating; an omer a head, according to the number of your persons, shall ye take it, every man for them that are in his tent.' 17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered some more, some less. 18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating. 19 And Moses said unto them: 'Let no man leave of it till the morning.' 20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and rotted; and Moses was wroth with them. 21 And they gathered it morning by morning, every man according to his eating; and as the sun waxed hot, it melted. 22 And it came to pass that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one; and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. 23 And he said unto them: 'This is that which the LORD hath spoken: To-morrow is a solemn rest, a holy sabbath unto the LORD. Bake that which ye will bake, and seethe that which ye will seethe; and all that remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.' 24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade; and it did

not rot, neither was there any worm therein. 25 And Moses said: 'Eat that to-day; for to-day is a sabbath unto the LORD; to-day ye shall not find it in the field. 26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.' 27 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that there went out some of the people to gather, and they found none. 28 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'How long refuse ye to keep My commandments and My laws? 29 See that the LORD hath given you the sabbath; therefore He giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.' 30 So the people rested on the seventh day. 31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna; and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. 32 And Moses said: 'This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded: Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.' 33 And Moses said unto Aaron: 'Take a jar, and put an omerful of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations.' 34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept. 35 And the children of Israel did eat the manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat the manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan. 36 Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah.

Moses and his People

17 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, by their stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and encamped in Rephidim; and there was no water for the people to drink. 2 Wherefore the people strove with Moses, and said: 'Give us water that we may drink.' And Moses said unto them: 'Why strive ye with me? wherefore do ye try the LORD?' 3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said: 'Wherefore hast thou brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?' 4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying: 'What shall I do unto this people? they are almost ready to stone me.' 5 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Pass on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thy hand, and go. 6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.' And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And the name of the place was called Massah, and Meribah, because of the striving of the children of Israel, and because they tried the LORD, saying: 'Is the LORD among us, or not?'

8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. 9 And Moses said unto Joshua: 'Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek; to-morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.' 10 So

Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

14 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Write this for a memorial in the book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.' 15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Adonai-nissi. 16 And he said: 'The hand upon the throne of the LORD: the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.'

The Ten Commandments

19 In the third month after the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai. 2 And when they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped in the wilderness; and there Israel encamped before the mount. 3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying:

'Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto Myself. 5 Now therefore, if ye will hearken unto My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be Mine own treasure from among all peoples; for all the earth is Mine; 6 and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.' 7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said: 'All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.' And Moses reported the words of the people unto the LORD. 9 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and may also believe thee for ever.' And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD. 10 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Go unto the people, and sanctify them to-day and to-morrow, and let them wash their garments, 11 and be ready against the third day; for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. 12 And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying: Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it; whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death; 13 no hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live; when the ram's horn soundeth

long, they shall come up to the mount.' 14 And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their garments. 15 And he said unto the people: 'Be ready against the third day; come not near a woman.' 16 And it came to pass on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of a horn exceeding loud; and all the people that were in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. 18 Now mount Sinai was altogether on smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. 19 And when the voice of the horn waxed louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice. 20 And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, to the top of the mount; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mount; and Moses went up. 21 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish. 22 And let the priests also, that come near to the LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the LORD break forth upon them.' 23 And Moses said unto the LORD: 'The people cannot come up to mount Sinai; for thou didst charge us, saying: Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it.' 24 And the LORD said unto him: 'Go, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break

through to come up unto the LORD, lest He break forth upon them.' 25 So Moses went down unto the people, and told them.

20 And God spoke all these words, saying:
2 I am the LORD thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
3 Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
4 Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor any manner of likeness, of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;
5 thou shalt not bow down unto them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me;
6 and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments.
7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.
8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work;
10 but the seventh day is a sabbath unto the LORD thy God, in it thou shalt not do any manner of work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates;
11 for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested on the seventh day; wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

12 Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

13 Thou shalt not murder.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

14 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

15 And all the people perceived the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the voice of the horn, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled, and stood afar off. 16 And they said unto Moses: 'Speak thou with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.' 17 And Moses said unto the people: 'Fear not; for God is come to prove you, and that His fear may be before you, that ye sin not.' 18 And the people stood afar off; but Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.

Social Laws

23 Thou shalt not utter a false report; put not thy hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. 2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou bear witness in a cause to turn aside after a multi-

tude to pervert justice; 3 neither shalt thou favour a poor man in his cause.

4 If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again.

5 If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under its burden, thou shalt forbear to pass by him; thou shalt surely release it with him.

6 Thou shalt not wrest the judgment of thy poor in his cause. 7 Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not; for I will not justify the wicked. 8 And thou shalt take no gift; for a gift blindeth them that have sight, and perverteth the words of the righteous. 9 And a stranger shalt thou not oppress; for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

The Golden Calf

32 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him: 'Up, make us a god who shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him.' 2 And Aaron said unto them: 'Break off the golden rings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.' 3 And all the people broke off the golden rings which were in their

ears, and brought them unto Aaron. 4 And he received it at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it a molten calf; and they said: 'This is thy god, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.' 5 And when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said: 'To-morrow shall be a feast to the LORD.' 6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt-offerings, and brought peace-offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to make merry.

7 And the LORD spoke unto Moses: 'Go, get thee down; for thy people, that thou broughtest up out of the land of Egypt, have dealt corruptly; 8 they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed unto it, and said: This is thy god, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.' 9 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people. 10 Now therefore let Me alone, that My wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them; and I will make of thee a great nation.' 11 And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said: 'LORD, why doth Thy wrath wax hot against Thy people, that Thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, saying: For evil did He bring them forth, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from Thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil

against Thy people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Thy servants, to whom Thou didst swear by Thine own self, and saidst unto them: I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.' 14 And the LORD repented of the evil which He said He would do unto His people.

15 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, with the two tables of the testimony in his hand; tables that were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. 16 And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables. 17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses: 'There is a noise of war in the camp.' 18 And he said: 'It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome, but the noise of them that sing do I hear.' 19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing; and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and broke them beneath the mount. 20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it with fire, and ground it to powder, and strewed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. 21 And Moses said unto Aaron: 'What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought a great sin upon them?' 22 And Aaron said: 'Let not the anger of my lord wax hot; thou knowest the people, that

they are set on evil.' 23 So they said unto me: Make us a god, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him. 24 And I said unto them: Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off; so they gave it me; and I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.' 25 And when Moses saw that the people were broken loose—for Aaron had let them loose for a derision among their enemies—26 then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said: 'Whoso is on the LORD's side, let him come unto me.' And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. 27 And he said unto them: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Put ye every man his sword upon his thigh, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.' 28 And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses; and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men. 29 And Moses said: 'Consecrate yourselves to-day to the LORD, for every man hath been against his son and against his brother; that He may also bestow upon you a blessing this day.' 30 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people: 'Ye have sinned a great sin; and now I will go up unto the LORD, peradventure I shall make atonement for your sin.' 31 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said: 'Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them a god of gold. 32 Yet now, if Thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray Thee, out of Thy book

which Thou hast written.' 33 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book. 34 And now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee; behold, Mine angel shall go before thee; nevertheless in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them.' 35 And the LORD smote the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made.

Moses Pleads for his People

33 And the LORD spoke unto Moses: 'Depart, go up hence, thou and the people that thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land of which I swore unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying: Unto thy seed will I give it—2 and I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite—3 unto a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people; lest I consume thee in the way.' 4 And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned; and no man did put on him his ornaments. 5 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Say unto the children of Israel: Ye are a stiffnecked people; if I go up into the midst of thee for one moment, I shall consume thee; therefore now put off thy ornaments from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee.' 6 And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments from mount Horeb onward.

7 Now Moses used to take the tent and to pitch it without the camp, afar off from the camp; and he called it The tent of meeting. And it came to pass, that every one that sought the LORD went out unto the tent of meeting, which was without the camp. 8 And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the Tent, that all the people rose up, and stood, every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the Tent. 9 And it came to pass, when Moses entered into the Tent, the pillar of cloud descended, and stood at the door of the Tent; and [the LORD] spoke with Moses. 10 And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud stand at the door of the Tent, all the people rose up and worshipped, every man at his tent door. 11 And the LORD spoke unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he would return into the camp; but his minister Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the Tent.

God's Compassion

12 And Moses said unto the LORD: 'See, Thou sayest unto me: Bring up this people; and Thou hast not let me know whom Thou wilt send with me. Yet Thou hast said: I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in My sight. 13 Now therefore, I pray Thee, if I have found grace in Thy sight, show me now Thy ways, that I may know Thee, to the end that I may find grace in Thy sight; and consider that this nation is Thy people.' 14 And He

said: 'My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.' 15 And he said unto Him: 'If Thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. 16 For wherein now shall it be known that I have found grace in Thy sight, I and Thy people? is it not in that Thou goest with us, so that we are distinguished, I and Thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth?'

17 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken, for thou hast found grace in My sight, and I know thee by name.' 18 And he said: 'Show me, I pray Thee, Thy glory.' 19 And He said: 'I will make all My goodness pass before thee, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.' 20 And He said: 'Thou canst not see My face, for man shall not see Me and live.' 21 And the LORD said: 'Behold, there is a place by Me, and thou shalt stand upon the rock. 22 And it shall come to pass, while My glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with My hand until I have passed by. 23 And I will take away My hand, and thou shalt see My back; but My face shall not be seen.'

34 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first; and I will write upon the tables the words that were on the first tables, which thou didst break. 2 And be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present

thyself there to Me on the top of the mount. 3 And no man shall come up with thee, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount.' 4 And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tables of stone. 5 And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. 6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed: 'The LORD, the LORD, God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth; 7 keeping mercy unto the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin; and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and unto the fourth generation.' 8 And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped. 9 And he said: 'If now I have found grace in Thy sight, O Lord, let the Lord, I pray Thee, go in the midst of us; for it is a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for Thine inheritance.' 10 And He said: 'Behold, I make a covenant; before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been wrought in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD that I am about to do with thee, that it is tremendous.'

LEVITICUS

The Covenant of Holiness

19 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
2 Speak unto all the congregation of the
children of Israel, and say unto them:
Ye shall be holy; for I the LORD your God
am holy. 3 Ye shall fear every man his
mother, and his father, and ye shall keep My
sabbaths: I am the LORD your God. 4 Turn ye
not unto the idols, nor make to yourselves
molten gods: I am the LORD your God.

Israel's Religious Code

9 And when ye reap the harvest of your
land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corner of
thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleaning
of thy harvest. 10 And thou shalt not glean
thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather the
fallen fruit of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave
them for the poor and for the stranger: I am
the LORD your God. 11 Ye shall not steal;
neither shall ye deal falsely, nor lie one to an-
other. 12 And ye shall not swear by My name
falsely, so that thou profane the name of thy
God: I am the LORD. 13 Thou shalt not op-
press thy neighbour, nor rob him; the wages
of a hired servant shall not abide with thee all
night until the morning. 14 Thou shalt not
curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling-block be-
fore the blind, but thou shalt fear thy God: I
am the LORD. 15 Ye shall do no unrighteous-

ness in judgment; thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor favour the person of the mighty; but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour. 16 Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people; neither shalt thou stand idly by the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD. 17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart; thou shalt surely rebuke thy neighbour, and not bear sin because of him. 18 Thou shalt not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD. 30 Ye shall keep My sabbaths, and reverence My sanctuary: I am the LORD 31 Turn ye not unto the ghosts, nor unto familiar spirits; seek them not out, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God. 32 Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and thou shalt fear thy God: I am the LORD. 33 And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not do him wrong. 34 The stranger that sojourneth with you shall be unto you as the home-born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. 35 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. 36 Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. 37 And ye shall observe all My statutes, and all Mine ordinances, and do them: I am the LORD.

The Jewish Holy Days

22 26 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
27 When a bullock, or a sheep, or a goat, is brought forth, then it shall be seven days under the dam; but from the eighth day and thenceforth it may be accepted for an offering made by fire unto the LORD. 28 And whether it be cow or ewe, ye shall not kill it and its young both in one day. 29 And when ye sacrifice a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, ye shall sacrifice it that ye may be accepted. 30 On the same day it shall be eaten; ye shall leave none of it until the morning: I am the LORD. 31 And ye shall keep My commandments, and do them: I am the LORD. 32 And ye shall not profane My holy name; but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel: I am the LORD who hallow you, 33 that brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD.

23 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them:
The appointed seasons of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are My appointed seasons. 3 Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of work; it is a sabbath unto the LORD in all your dwellings.
4 These are the appointed seasons of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their appointed season. 5 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month

at dusk, is the LORD's passover. 6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD; seven days ye shall eat unleavened bread. 7 In the first day ye shall have a holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of servile work. 8 And ye shall bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days; in the seventh day is a holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of servile work.

9 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: 10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them:

When ye are come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring the sheaf of the first-fruits of your harvest unto the priest. 11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you; on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. 12 And in the day when ye wave the sheaf, ye shall offer a he-lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt-offering unto the LORD. 13 And the meal-offering thereof shall be two tenth parts of an ephah of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the LORD for a sweet savour; and the drink-offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of a hin. 14 And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor fresh ears, until this selfsame day, until ye have brought the offering of your God; it is a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the day of rest, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the waving; seven weeks

shall there be complete; 16 even unto the morrow after the seventh week shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall present a new meal-offering unto the LORD. 17 Ye shall bring out of your dwellings two wave-loaves of two tenth parts of an ephah; they shall be of fine flour, they shall be baked with leaven, for first-fruits unto the LORD. 18 And ye shall present with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bullock, and two rams; they shall be a burnt-offering unto the LORD, with their meal-offering, and their drink-offerings, even an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD. 19 And ye shall offer one he-goat for a sin-offering, and two he-lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace-offerings. 20 And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the first-fruits for a wave-offering before the LORD, with the two lambs; they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21 And ye shall make proclamation on the selfsame day; there shall be a holy convocation unto you; ye shall do no manner of servile work; it is a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

22 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corner of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleaning of thy harvest; thou shalt leave them for the poor, and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

23 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: 24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying: In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall be a solemn rest unto you, a

memorial proclaimed with the blast of horns, a holy convocation. 25 Ye shall do no manner of servile work; and ye shall bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

26 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:

27 Howbeit on the tenth day of this seventh month is the day of atonement; there shall be a holy convocation unto you, and ye shall afflict your souls; and ye shall bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD. 28 And ye shall do no manner of work in that same day; for it is a day of atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29 For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from his people. 30 And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any manner of work in that same day, that soul will I destroy from among his people. 31 Ye shall do no manner of work; it is a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 32 It shall be unto you a sabbath of solemn rest, and ye shall afflict your souls; in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye keep your sabbath.

33 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: 34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying:

On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD. 35 On the first day shall be a holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of servile work. 36 Seven days ye shall bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD; on the eighth day shall be a holy convocation unto you; and ye shall bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD; it is a day of solemn assembly; ye shall do no manner of servile work.

37 These are the appointed seasons of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to bring an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt-offering, and a meal-offering, a sacrifice, and drink-offerings, each on its own day; 38 beside the sabbaths of the LORD, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill-offerings, which ye give unto the LORD.

39 Howbeit on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruits of the land, ye shall keep the feast of the LORD seven days; on the first day shall be a solemn rest, and on the eighth day shall be a solemn rest. 40 And ye shall take you on the first day the fruit of goodly trees, branches of palm-trees, and boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook, and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. 41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year; it is a statute for ever in your generations; ye shall keep it in the seventh month. 42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are home-born in Israel shall dwell in booths; 43 that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

44 And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the appointed seasons of the LORD.

The Jubilee

25 And the LORD spoke unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying: 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them:

When ye come into the land which I give
you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto
the LORD. 3 Six years thou shalt sow thy field,
and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard,
and gather in the produce thereof. 4 But in
the seventh year shall be a sabbath of solemn
rest for the land, a sabbath unto the LORD; thou
shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vine-
yard. 5 That which groweth of itself of thy
harvest thou shalt not reap, and the grapes of
thy undressed vine thou shalt not gather; it
shall be a year of solemn rest for the land.
6 And the sabbath-produce of the land shall be
for food for you: for thee, and for thy servant
and for thy maid, and for thy hired servant
and for the settler by thy side that sojourn with
thee; 7 and for thy cattle, and for the beasts
that are in thy land, shall all the increase
thereof be for food.

8 And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of
years unto thee, seven times seven years; and
there shall be unto thee the days of seven sab-
baths of years, even forty and nine years.
9 Then shalt thou make proclamation with
the blast of the horn on the tenth day of the
seventh month; in the day of atonement shall
ye make proclamation with the horn through-
out all your land. 10 And ye shall hallow the
fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout
the land unto all the inhabitants thereof; it
shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return
every man unto his possession, and ye shall
return every man unto his family. 11 A jubilee
shall that fiftieth year be unto you; ye shall
not sow, neither reap that which groweth of

itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of the undressed vines. 12 For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy unto you; ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. 13 In this year of jubilee ye shall return every man unto his possession. 14 And if thou sell aught unto thy neighbour, or buy of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not wrong one another. 15 According to the number of years after the jubilee thou shalt buy of thy neighbour, and according unto the number of years of the crops he shall sell unto thee. 16 According to the multitude of the years thou shalt increase the price thereof, and according to the fewness of the years thou shalt diminish the price of it; for the number of crops doth he sell unto thee. 17 And ye shall not wrong one another; but thou shalt fear thy God; for I am the LORD your God. 18 Wherefore ye shall do My statutes, and keep Mine ordinances and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety. 19 And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat until ye have enough, and dwell therein in safety. 20 And if ye shall say: 'What shall we eat the seventh year? behold, we may not sow, nor gather in our increase'; 21 then I will command My blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth produce for the three years. 22 And ye shall sow the eighth year, and eat of the produce, the old store; until the ninth year, until her produce come in, ye shall eat the old store. 23 And the land shall not be sold in perpetuity; for the land is Mine; for ye are strangers and settlers with Me. 24 And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land.

25 If thy brother be waxen poor, and sell
some of his possession, then shall his kinsman
that is next unto him come, and shall redeem
that which his brother hath sold. 26 And if a
man have no one to redeem it, and he be
waxen rich and find sufficient means to redeem
it; 27 then let him count the years of the sale
thereof, and restore the overplus unto the man
to whom he sold it; and he shall return unto
his possession. 28 But if he have not sufficient
means to get it back for himself, then that
which he hath sold shall remain in the hand
of him that hath bought it until the year of
jubilee; and in the jubilee it shall go out, and
he shall return unto his possession.

Obligations of Brotherhood

35 And if thy brother be waxen poor, and his
means fail with thee; then thou shalt uphold
him: as a stranger and a settler shall he live
with thee. 36 Take thou no interest of him
or increase; but fear thy God; that thy brother
may live with thee. 37 Thou shalt not give
him thy money upon interest, nor give him thy
victuals for increase. 38 I am the LORD your
God, who brought you forth out of the land of
Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, to be
your God.

39 And if thy brother be waxen poor with
thee, and sell himself unto thee, thou shalt
not make him to serve as a bondservant. 40 As
a hired servant, and as a settler, he shall be with
thee; he shall serve with thee unto the year of

jubilee. 41 Then shall he go out from thee, he and his children with him, and shall return unto his own family, and unto the possession of his fathers shall he return. 42 For they are My servants, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as bondmen. 43 Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God. 44 And as for thy bondmen, and thy bondmaids, whom thou mayest have: of the nations that are round about you, of them shall ye buy bondmen and bondmaids. 45 Moreover of the children of the strangers that do sojourn among you, of them may ye buy, and of their families that are with you, which they have begotten in your land; and they may be your possession. 46 And ye may make them an inheritance for your children after you, to hold for a possession: of them may ye take your bondmen for ever; but over your brethren the children of Israel ye shall not rule, one over another, with rigour.

47 And if a stranger who is a settler with thee be waxen rich, and thy brother be waxen poor beside him, and sell himself unto the stranger who is a settler with thee, or to the offshoot of a stranger's family, 48 after that he is sold he may be redeemed; one of his brethren may redeem him; 49 or his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him of his family may redeem him; or if he be waxen rich, he may redeem himself. 50 And he shall reckon with him that bought him from the year that he sold himself to him unto the year of jubilee; and the price of his sale shall be according unto the number of

years; according to the time of a hired servant shall he be with him. 51 If there be yet many years, according unto them he shall give back the price of his redemption out of the money that he was bought for. 52 And if there remain but few years unto the year of jubilee, then he shall reckon with him; according unto his years shall he give back the price of his redemption. 53 As a servant hired year by year shall he be with him; he shall not rule with rigour over him in thy sight. 54 And if he be not redeemed by any of these means, then he shall go out in the year of jubilee, he, and his children with him. 55 For unto Me the children of Israel are servants; they are My servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

NUMBERS

The Priestly Blessing

6 22 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
23 'Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying: On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel; ye shall say unto them:

24 The LORD bless thee, and keep thee;
25 The LORD make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;
26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Safety While Journeying

10 29 And Moses said unto Hobab, the son of
Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law:
'We are journeying unto the place of which the
LORD said: I will give it you; come thou with
us, and we will do thee good; for the LORD hath
spoken good concerning Israel.' 30 And he said
unto him: 'I will not go; but I will depart to
mine own land, and to my kindred.' 31 And he
said: 'Leave us not, I pray thee; forasmuch as
thou knowest how we are to encamp in the
wilderness, and thou shalt be to us instead of
eyes. 32 And it shall be, if thou go with us,
yea, it shall be, that what good soever the
LORD shall do unto us, the same will we do
unto thee.'

33 And they set forward from the mount of
the LORD three days' journey; and the ark of
the covenant of the LORD went before them
three days' journey, to seek out a resting-place
for them. 34 And the cloud of the LORD was
over them by day, when they set forward from
the camp.

35 And it came to pass, when the ark set for-
ward, that Moses said: 'Rise up, O LORD, and
let Thine enemies be scattered; and let them
that hate Thee flee before Thee.' 36 And when
it rested, he said: 'Return, O LORD, unto the
ten thousands of the families of Israel.'

The Promised Land

13 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
2 'Send thou men, that they may spy
out the land of Canaan, which I give unto the

children of Israel; of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a prince among them.' 3 And Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran according to the commandment of the LORD; all of them men who were heads of the children of Israel. 4 And these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur. 5 Of the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori. 6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh. 7 Of the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph. 8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun. 9 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu. 10 Of the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi. 11 Of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi. 12 Of the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli. 13 Of the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael. 14 Of the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi. 15 Of the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi. 16 These are the names of the men that Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua. 17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them: 'Get you up here into the South, and go up into the mountains; 18 and see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they are strong or weak, whether they are few or many; 19 and what the land is that they dwell in, whether it is good or bad; and what cities they are that they dwell in, whether in camps, or in strongholds; 20 and what the land is, whether it is fat or lean, whether there is wood therein, or not. And be ye of good

courage, and bring of the fruit of the land.'—Now the time was the time of the first-ripe grapes.—21 So they went up, and spied out the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, at the entrance to Hamath. 22 And they went up into the South, and came unto Hebron; and Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the children of Anak, were there.—Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.—23 And they came unto the valley of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bore it upon a pole between two; they took also of the pomegranates, and of the figs.—24 That place was called the valley of Eshcol, because of the cluster which the children of Israel cut down from thence.—25 And they returned from spying out the land at the end of forty days. 26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. 27 And they told him, and said: 'We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. 28 Howbeit the people that dwell in the land are fierce, and the cities are fortified, and very great; and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. 29 Amalek dwelleth in the land of the South; and the Hittite, and the Jebusite, and the Amorite, dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanite dwelleth by the sea, and along by the side of the Jordan.' 30 And Caleb stilled the people toward Moses, and

said: 'We should go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.' 31 But the men that went up with him said: 'We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.' 32 And they spread an evil report of the land which they had spied out unto the children of Israel, saying: 'The land, through which we have passed to spy it out, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 And there we saw the Nephilim, the sons of Anak, who come of the Nephilim; and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.'

14 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. 2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron; and the whole congregation said unto them: 'Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would we had died in this wilderness! 3 And wherefore doth the LORD bring us unto this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will be a prey; were it not better for us to return into Egypt?' 4 And they said one to another: 'Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.' 5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel. 6 And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were of them that spied out the land, rent their clothes. 7 And they spoke unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: 'The land, which we passed

through to spy it out, is an exceeding good land. 8 If the LORD delight in us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it unto us—a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us; their defence is removed from over them, and the LORD is with us; fear them not.' 10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones, when the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting unto all the children of Israel.

11 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'How long will this people despise Me? and how long will they not believe in Me, for all the signs which I have wrought among them? 12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and destroy them, and will make of thee a nation greater and mightier than they.' 13 And Moses said unto the LORD: 'When the Egyptians shall hear—for Thou broughtest up this people in Thy might from among them—14 they will say to the inhabitants of this land, who have heard that Thou LORD art in the midst of this people; inasmuch as Thou LORD art seen face to face, and Thy cloud standeth over them, and Thou goest before them, in a pillar of cloud by day, and in a pillar of fire by night; 15 now if Thou shalt kill this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of Thee will speak, saying: 16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which He swore unto them, therefore He hath slain them in the wilderness. 17 And now, I pray Thee, let the power of the Lord be great, according as Thou

hast spoken, saying: 18 The LORD is slow to anger, and plenteous in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, upon the third and upon the fourth generation. 19 Pardon, I pray Thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of Thy lovingkindness, and according as Thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.' 20 And the LORD said: 'I have pardoned according to thy word. 21 But in very deed, as I live—and all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD— 22 surely all those men that have seen My glory, and My signs, which I wrought in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have put Me to proof these ten times, and have not hearkened to My voice; 23 surely they shall not see the land which I swore unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that despised Me see it. 24 But My servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed Me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

National Rights

20 14 And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom: 'Thus saith thy brother Israel: Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us; 15 how our fathers went down into Egypt, and we dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians dealt ill with us, and our fathers; 16 and when we cried unto the LORD, He heard our voice, and sent an angel,

and brought us forth out of Egypt; and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border. 17 Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy land; we will not pass through field or through vineyard, neither will we drink of the water of the wells; we will go along the king's highway, we will not turn aside to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy border.' 18 And Edom said unto him: 'Thou shalt not pass through me, lest I come out with the sword against thee.' 19 And the children of Israel said unto him: 'We will go up by the highway; and if we drink of thy water, I and my cattle, then will I give the price thereof; let me only pass through on my feet; there is no hurt.' 20 And he said: 'Thou shalt not pass through.' And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand. 21 Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border; wherefore Israel turned away from him.

22 And they journeyed from Kadesh; and the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, came unto mount Hor. 23 And the LORD spoke unto Moses and Aaron in mount Hor, by the border of the land of Edom, saying: 24 'Aaron shall be gathered unto his people; for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against My word at the waters of Meribah. 25 Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up unto mount Hor. 26 And strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron shall be gathered unto his people, and shall die there.' 27 And Moses did

as the LORD commanded; and they went up into mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation. 28 And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there in the top of the mount; and Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount. 29 And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they wept for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.

Balaam

22 2 And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. 3 And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they were many; and Moab was overcome with dread because of the children of Israel. 4 And Moab said unto the elders of Midian: 'Now will this multitude lick up all that is round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field.'—And Balak the son of Zippor was king of Moab at that time.—5 And he sent messengers unto Balaam the son of Beor, to Pethor, which is by the River, to the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying: 'Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt; behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me. 6 Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me; peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land; for I know that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed.' 7 And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed

with the rewards of divination in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spoke unto him the words of Balak. 8 And he said unto them: 'Lodge here this night, and I will bring you back word, as the LORD may speak unto me'; and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam. 9 And God came unto Balaam, and said: 'What men are these with thee?' 10 And Balaam said unto God: 'Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, hath sent unto me [saying]: 11 Behold the people that is come out of Egypt, it covereth the face of the earth; now, come curse me them; peradventure I shall be able to fight against them, and shall drive them out.' 12 And God said unto Balaam: 'Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people; for they are blessed.' 13 And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak: 'Get you into your land; for the LORD refuseth to give me leave to go with you.' 14 And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said: 'Balaam refuseth to come with us.' 15 And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they. 16 And they came to Balaam, and said to him: 'Thus saith Balak the son of Zippor: Let nothing, I pray thee, hinder thee from coming unto me; 17 for I will promote thee unto very great honour, and whatsoever thou sayest unto me I will do; come therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people.' 18 And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak: 'If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do any thing, small

or great. 19 Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will speak unto me more.' 20 And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him: 'If the men are come to call thee, rise up, go with them; but only the word which I speak unto thee, that shalt thou do.'

23 7 And he took up his parable, and said:

From Aram Balak bringeth me,
The king of Moab from the mountains of the East:
'Come, curse me Jacob,
And come, execrate Israel.'
8 How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed?
And how shall I execrate, whom the LORD hath not execrated?
9 For from the top of the rocks I see him,
And from the hills I behold him:
Lo, it is a people that shall dwell alone,
And shall not be reckoned among the nations.
10 Who hath counted the dust of Jacob,
Or numbered the stock of Israel?
Let me die the death of the righteous,
And let mine end be like his!

Keeping One's Word

30 2 And Moses spoke unto the heads of the tribes of the children of Israel, saying:

This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded. 3 When a man voweth a vow unto

the LORD, or sweareth an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth.

To Each His Duty

32 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of cattle; and when they saw the land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead, that, behold, the place was a place for cattle, 2 the children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke unto Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and unto the princes of the congregation, saying: 3 'Ataroth, and Dibon, and Jazer, and Nimrah, and Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Sebam, and Nebo, and Beon, 4 the land which the LORD smote before the congregation of Israel, is a land for cattle, and thy servants have cattle.' 5 And they said: 'If we have found favour in thy sight, let this land be given unto thy servants for a possession; bring us not over the Jordan.' 6 And Moses said unto the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben: 'Shall your brethren go to the war, and shall ye sit here? 7 And wherefore will ye turn away the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land which the LORD hath given them? 8 Thus did your fathers, when I sent them from Kadesh-barnea to see the land. 9 For when they went up unto the valley of Eshcol, and saw the land, they turned away the heart of the children of Israel, that they should not go into the land which the LORD had given

them. 10 And the LORD's anger was kindled in that day, and He swore, saying: 11 Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; because they have not wholly followed Me; 12 save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun; because they have wholly followed the LORD. 13 And the LORD's anger was kindled against Israel, and He made them wander to and fro in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation, that had done evil in the sight of the LORD, was consumed. 14 And, behold, ye are risen up in your fathers' stead, a brood of sinful men, to augment yet the fierce anger of the LORD toward Israel. 15 For if ye turn away from after Him, He will yet again leave them in the wilderness; and so ye will destroy all this people.'

16 And they came near unto him, and said: 'We will build sheepfolds here for our cattle, and cities for our little ones; 17 but we ourselves will be ready armed to go before the children of Israel, until we have brought them unto their place; and our little ones shall dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land. 18 We will not return unto our houses, until the children of Israel have inherited every man his inheritance. 19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan, and forward, because our inheritance is fallen to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.'

20 And Moses said unto them: 'If ye will do

this thing: if ye will arm yourselves to go before the LORD to the war, 21 and every armed man of you will pass over the Jordan before the LORD, until He hath driven out His enemies from before Him, 22 and the land be subdued before the LORD, and ye return afterward; then ye shall be clear before the LORD, and before Israel, and this land shall be unto you for a possession before the LORD. 23 But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD; and know ye your sin which will find you. 24 Build you cities for your little ones, and folds for your sheep; and do that which hath proceeded out of your mouth.'

25 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spoke unto Moses, saying: 'Thy servants will do as my lord commandeth. 26 Our little ones, our wives, our flocks, and all our cattle, shall be there in the cities of Gilead; 27 but thy servants will pass over, every man that is armed for war, before the LORD to battle, as my lord saith.'

DEUTERONOMY

God's Guidance and Help

4 25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have been long in the land, and shall deal corruptly, and make a graven image, even the form of any thing, and shall do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke Him;

26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over the Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. 27 And the LORD shall scatter you among the peoples, and ye shall be left few in number among the nations, whither the LORD shall lead you away. 28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. 29 But from thence ye will seek the LORD thy God; and thou shalt find Him, if thou search after Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. 30 In thy distress, when all these things are come upon thee, in the end of days, thou wilt return to the LORD thy God, and hearken unto His voice; 31 for the LORD thy God is a merciful God; He will not fail thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which He swore unto them. 32 For ask now of the days past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and from the one end of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it? 33 Did ever a people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live? 34 Or hath God assayed to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before thine eyes? 35 Unto thee it was

shown, that thou mightest know that the LORD, He is God; there is none else beside Him. 36 Out of heaven He made thee to hear His voice, that He might instruct thee; and upon earth He made thee to see His great fire; and thou didst hear His words out of the midst of the fire. 37 And because He loved thy fathers, and chose their seed after them, and brought thee out with His presence, with His great power, out of Egypt, 38 to drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day; 39 know this day, and lay it to thy heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and upon the earth beneath; there is none else. 40 And thou shalt keep His statutes, and His commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.

The Shema

6 4 HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE. 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart; 7 and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou

shalt bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be for frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the door-posts of thy house, and upon thy gates.

13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto My commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 that I will give the rain of your land in its season, the former rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. 15 And I will give grass in thy fields for thy cattle, and thou shalt eat and be satisfied. 16 Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; 17 and the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, so that there shall be no rain, and the ground shall not yield her fruit; and ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you. 18 Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul; and ye shall bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes. 19 And ye shall teach them your children, talking of them, when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 20 And thou shalt write them upon the door-posts of thy house, and upon thy gates; 21 that your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, upon the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers to give them, as the days of the heavens above the earth.

The Hand of Fellowship

15 7 If there be among you a needy man, one of thy brethren, within any of thy
gates, in thy land which the LORD thy God
giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thy heart, nor
shut thy hand from thy needy brother; 8 but
thou shalt surely open thy hand unto him, and
shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need in
that which he wanteth. 9 Beware that there
be not a base thought in thy heart, saying:
'The seventh year, the year of release, is at
hand'; and thine eye be evil against thy needy
brother, and thou give him nought; and he
cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin in
thee. 10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thy
heart shall not be grieved when thou givest
unto him; because that for this thing the LORD
thy God will bless thee in all thy work, and
in all that thou puttest thy hand unto. 11 For
the poor shall never cease out of the land;
therefore I command thee, saying: 'Thou shalt
surely open thy hand unto thy poor and needy
brother, in thy land.'

12 If thy brother, a Hebrew man, or a He-
brew woman, be sold unto thee, he shall serve
thee six years; and in the seventh year thou
shalt let him go free from thee. 13 And when
thou lettest him go free from thee, thou shalt
not let him go empty; 14 thou shalt furnish
him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy
threshing-floor, and out of thy winepress; of
that wherewith the LORD thy God hath blessed
thee thou shalt give unto him. 15 And thou

shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee; therefore I command thee this thing to-day. 16 And it shall be, if he say unto thee: 'I will not go out from thee'; because he loveth thee and thy house, because he fareth well with thee; 17 then thou shalt take an awl, and thrust it through his ear and into the door, and he shall be thy bondman for ever. And also unto thy bondwoman thou shalt do likewise. 18 It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou lettest him go free from thee; for to the double of the hire of a hireling hath he served thee six years; and the LORD thy God will bless thee in all that thou doest.

Social Maxims

21 If one be found slain in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it, lying in the field, and it be not known who hath smitten him; 2 then thy elders and thy judges shall come forth, and they shall measure unto the cities which are round about him that is slain. 3 And it shall be, that the city which is nearest unto the slain man, even the elders of that city shall take a heifer of the herd, which hath not been wrought with, and which hath not drawn in the yoke. 4 And the elders of that city shall bring down the heifer unto a rough valley, which may neither be plowed nor sown, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley. 5 And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near—for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto Him, and

to bless in the name of the LORD; and according to their word shall every controversy and every stroke be. 6 And all the elders of that city, who are nearest unto the slain man, shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley. 7 And they shall speak and say: 'Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it. 8 Forgive, O LORD, Thy people Israel, whom Thou hast redeemed, and suffer not innocent blood to remain in the midst of Thy people Israel.' And the blood shall be forgiven them. 9 So shalt thou put away the innocent blood from the midst of thee, when thou shalt do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD.

22 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep driven away, and hide thyself from them; thou shalt surely bring them back unto thy brother. 2 And if thy brother be not nigh unto thee, and thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it home to thy house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother require it, and thou shalt restore it to him. 3 And so shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his garment; and so shalt thou do with every lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found; thou mayest not hide thyself.

4 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fallen down by the way, and hide thyself from them; thou shalt surely help him to lift them up again.

5 A woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on

a woman's garment; for whosoever doeth these things is an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

6 If a bird's nest chance to be before thee in the way, in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs, and the dam sitting upon the young, or upon the eggs, thou shalt not take the dam with the young; 7 thou shalt in any wise let the dam go, but the young thou mayest take unto thyself; that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days.

8 When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a parapet for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thy house, if any man fall from thence.

23 8 Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite, for he is thy brother; thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian, because thou wast a stranger in his land. 9 The children of the third generation that are born unto them may enter into the assembly of the LORD.

16 Thou shalt not deliver unto his master a bondman that is escaped from his master unto thee; 17 he shall dwell with thee, in the midst of thee, in the place which he shall choose within one of thy gates, where it liketh him best; thou shalt not wrong him.

22 When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not be slack to pay it; for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it will be sin in thee. 23 But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee. 24 That which is gone out of thy lips thou

shalt observe and do; according as thou hast vowed freely unto the LORD thy God, even that which thou hast promised with thy mouth.

24 10 When thou dost lend thy neighbour any manner of loan, thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge. 11 Thou shalt stand without, and the man to whom thou dost lend shall bring forth the pledge without unto thee. 12 And if he be a poor man, thou shalt not sleep with his pledge; 13 thou shalt surely restore to him the pledge when the sun goeth down, that he may sleep in his garment, and bless thee; and it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God.

14 Thou shalt not oppress a hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates. 15 In the same day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it; lest he cry against thee unto the LORD, and it be sin in thee.

16 The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers; every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

17 Thou shalt not pervert the justice due to the stranger, or to the fatherless; nor take the widow's raiment to pledge. 18 But thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee thence; therefore I command thee to do this thing.

19 When thou reapest thy harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou

shalt not go back to fetch it; it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thy hands.

20 When thou beatest thine olive-tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again; it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow. 21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it after thee; it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow. 22 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt; therefore I command thee to do this thing.

25 13 Thou shalt not have in thy bag diverse weights, a great and a small. 14 Thou shalt not have in thy house diverse measures, a great and a small. 15 A perfect and just weight shalt thou have; a perfect and just measure shalt thou have; that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. 16 For all that do such things, even all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

God's Covenant with Israel

29 And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them:

Ye have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt unto Pharaoh, and unto all his servants, and unto all his land; 2 the great trials which thine eyes saw, the signs and those great wonders; 3 but the LORD hath

not given you a heart to know, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day. 4 And I have led you forty years in the wilderness; your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot. 5 Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink; that ye might know that I am the LORD your God. 6 And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them. 7 And we took their land, and gave it for an inheritance unto the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of the Manassites. 8 Observe therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may make all that ye do to prosper.

9 Ye are standing this day all of you before the LORD your God; your heads, your tribes, your elders, and your officers, even all the men of Israel, 10 your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that is in the midst of thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water; 11 that thou shouldest enter into the covenant of the LORD thy God—and into His oath—which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day; 12 that He may establish thee this day unto Himself for a people, and that He may be unto thee a God, as He spoke unto thee, and as He swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. 13 Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath; 14 but with him that standeth here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with him that is not here with us this day—

15 for ye know how we dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the midst of the nations through which ye passed; 16 and ye have seen their detestable things, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were with them—17 lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go to serve the gods of those nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood; 18 and it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying: 'I shall have peace, though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart—that the watered be swept away with the dry'; 19 the LORD will not be willing to pardon him, but then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy shall be kindled against that man, and all the curse that is written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven; 20 and the LORD shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that is written in this book of the law. 21 And the generation to come, your children that shall rise up after you, and the foreigner that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses wherewith the LORD hath made it sick; 22 and that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and a burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which the LORD overthrew in His anger, and in His wrath; 23 even all the na-

tions shall say: 'Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger?' 24 then men shall say: 'Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them forth out of the land of Egypt; 25 and went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods that they knew not, and that He had not allotted unto them; 26 therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curse that is written in this book; 27 and the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day'.—28 The secret things belong unto the LORD our God; but the things that are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

30 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt bethink thyself among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, 2 and shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and hearken to His voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul; 3 that then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the peoples, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. 4 If any of thine that are dispersed be in the uttermost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from

thence will He fetch thee. 5 And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and He will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers. 6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thy heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live. 7 And the LORD thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, that persecuted thee. 8 And thou shalt return and hearken to the voice of the LORD, and do all His commandments which I command thee this day. 9 And the LORD thy God will make thee overabundant in all the work of thy hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good; for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as He rejoiced over thy fathers; 10 if thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law; if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul.

11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not too hard for thee, neither is it far off. 12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say: 'Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, and make us to hear it, that we may do it?' 13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say: 'Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, and make us to hear it, that we may do it?' 14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth,

and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.
15 See, I have set before thee this day life
and good, and death and evil, 16 in that I
command thee this day to love the LORD thy
God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His
commandments and His statutes and His ordi-
nances; then thou shalt live and multiply, and
the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land
whither thou goest in to possess it. 17 But if
thy heart turn away, and thou wilt not hear,
but shalt be drawn away, and worship other
gods, and serve them; 18 I declare unto you
this day, that ye shall surely perish; ye shall
not prolong your days upon the land, whither
thou passest over the Jordan to go in to pos-
sess it. 19 I call heaven and earth to witness
against you this day, that I have set before thee
life and death, the blessing and the curse; there-
fore choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and
thy seed; 20 to love the LORD thy God, to
hearken to His voice, and to cleave unto Him;
for that is thy life, and the length of thy days;
that thou mayest dwell in the land which the
LORD swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to
Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

31 And Moses went and spoke these words
unto all Israel. 2 And he said unto
them: 'I am a hundred and twenty years old
this day; I can no more go out and come in;
and the LORD hath said unto me: Thou shalt
not go over this Jordan. 3 The LORD thy God,
He will go over before thee; He will destroy
these nations from before thee, and thou shalt
dispossess them; and Joshua, he shall go over
before thee, as the LORD hath spoken. 4 And

the LORD will do unto them as He did to Sihon and to Og, the kings of the Amorites, and unto their land; whom He destroyed. 5 And the LORD will deliver them up before you, and ye shall do unto them according unto all the commandment which I have commanded you. 6 Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be affrighted at them; for the LORD thy God, He it is that doth go with thee; He will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.'

7 And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel: 'Be strong and of good courage; for thou shalt go with this people into the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it. 8 And the LORD, He it is that doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee; fear not, neither be dismayed.'

9 And Moses wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, that bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel. 10 And Moses commanded them, saying: 'At the end of every seven years, in the set time of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles, 11 when all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which He shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing. 12 Assemble the people, the men and the women and the little ones, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law; 13 and that their children, who have not known,

may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over the Jordan to possess it.'

14 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Behold, thy days approach that thou must die; call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tent of meeting, that I may give him a charge.' And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tent of meeting. 15 And the LORD appeared in the Tent in a pillar of cloud; and the pillar of cloud stood over the door of the Tent. 16 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Behold, thou art about to sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go astray after the foreign gods of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake Me, and break My covenant which I have made with them. 17 Then My anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall come upon them; so that they will say in that day: Are not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us? 18 And I will surely hide My face in that day for all the evil which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods. 19 Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach thou it the children of Israel; put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for Me against the children of Israel. 20 For when I shall have brought them into the land which I swore unto their fathers, flowing with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten their fill, and waxen fat; and turned unto

other gods, and served them, and despised Me, and broken My covenant; 21 then it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are come upon them, that this song shall testify before them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed; for I know their imagination how they do even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swore.' 22 So Moses wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel. 23 And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said: 'Be strong and of good courage; for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I swore unto them; and I will be with thee.'

24 And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished, 25 that Moses commanded the Levites, that bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying: 26 'Take this book of the law, and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee. 27 For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck; behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against the LORD; and how much more after my death? 28 Assemble unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to witness against them. 29 For I know that after my death ye will in any wise deal corruptly, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the end of days; because ye will

do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him through the work of your hands.' 30 And Moses spoke in the ears of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song, until they were finished:

The Death of Moses

34 And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, even Gilead as far as Dan; 2 and all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah as far as the hinder sea; 3 and the South, and the Plain, even the valley of Jericho the city of palm-trees, as far as Zoar. 4 And the LORD said unto him: 'This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying: I will give it unto thy seed; I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.' 5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. 6 And he was buried in the valley in the land of Moab over against Beth-peor; and no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day. 7 And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. 8 And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; so the days of weeping in the mourning for Moses were ended. 9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him; and

the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses. 10 And there hath not arisen a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face; 11 in all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land; 12 and in all the mighty hand, and in all the great terror, which Moses wrought in the sight of all Israel.

JOSHUA

Joshua Leads Israel

1 Now it came to pass after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, that the LORD spoke unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying: 2 'Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, to you have I given it, as I spoke unto Moses. 4 From the wilderness, and this Lebanon, even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border. 5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6 Be strong and of good courage; for thou shalt cause this people to inherit the land which I swore unto their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and

very courageous, to observe to do according to all the law, which Moses My servant commanded thee; turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest have good success whithersoever thou goest. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy ways prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. 9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not affrighted, neither be thou dismayed; for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.'

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying: 11 'Pass through the midst of the camp, and command the people, saying: Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye are to pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.'

12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, spoke Joshua, saying: 13 'Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying: The LORD your God giveth you rest, and will give you this land. 14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall abide in the land which Moses gave you beyond the Jordan; but ye shall pass over before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and shall help them; 15 until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as unto you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them; then ye shall return unto the

land of your possession, and possess it, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrising.'

16 And they answered Joshua, saying: 'All that thou hast commanded us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us we will go. 17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee; only the LORD thy God be with thee, as He was with Moses. 18 Whosoever he be that shall rebel against thy commandment, and shall not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death; only be strong and of good courage.'

The Gibeonite Embassy

9 And it came to pass, when all the kings that were beyond the Jordan, in the hill-country, and in the Lowland, and on all the shore of the Great Sea in front of Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard thereof, 2 that they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.

3 But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai, 4 they also did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine-skins, worn and rent and patched up; 5 and worn shoes and clouted upon their feet, and worn garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry and was become crumbs. 6 And they

went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel: 'We are come from a far country; now therefore make ye a covenant with us.' 7 And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites: 'Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a covenant with you?' 8 And they said unto Joshua: 'We are thy servants.' And Joshua said unto them: 'Who are ye? and from whence come ye?' 9 And they said unto him: 'From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God; for we have heard the fame of Him, and all that He did in Egypt, 10 and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites, that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth. 11 And our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying: Take provision in your hand for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them: We are your servants; and now make ye a covenant with us. 12 This our bread we took hot for our provision out of our houses on the day we came forth to go unto you; but now, behold, it is dry, and is become crumbs. 13 And these wine-skins, which we filled, were new; and, behold, they are rent. And these our garments and our shoes are worn by reason of the very long journey.' 14 And the men took of their provision, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD. 15 And Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them, to let them live; and the princes of the congregation swore unto them.

16 And it came to pass at the end of three

days after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they were their neighbours, and that they dwelt among them. 17 And the children of Israel journeyed, and came unto their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. 18 And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the LORD, the God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes. 19 But all the princes said unto all the congregation: 'We have sworn unto them by the LORD, the God of Israel; now therefore we may not touch them. 20 This we will do to them, and let them live; lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we swore unto them.' 21 And the princes said concerning them: 'Let them live'; so they became hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation, as the princes had spoken concerning them. 22 And Joshua called for them, and he spoke unto them, saying: 'Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying: We are very far from you, when ye dwell among us? 23 Now therefore ye are cursed, and there shall never fail to be of you bondmen, both hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.' 24 And they answered Joshua, and said: 'Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you; therefore we were sore afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing. 25 And now, behold, we are in thy hand: as it seemeth

good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.' 26 And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not. 27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, unto this day, in the place which He should choose.

Joshua's Farewell

23 And it came to pass after many days, when the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, and Joshua was old and well stricken in years; 2 that Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders and for their heads, and for their judges and for their officers, and said unto them: 'I am old and well stricken in years. 3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God, He it is that hath fought for you. 4 Behold, I have allotted unto you for an inheritance, according to your tribes, these nations that remain, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun. 5 And the LORD your God, He shall thrust them out from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God spoke unto you. 6 Therefore be ye very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left; 7 that ye come not among

these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor worship them; 8 but cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day; 9 wherefore the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and mighty; but as for you, no man hath stood against you unto this day. 10 One man of you hath chased a thousand; for the LORD your God, He it is that fought for you, as He spoke unto you. 11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God. 12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you; 13 know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive these nations from out of your sight; but they shall be a snare and a trap unto you, and a scourge in your sides, and pricks in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you. 14 And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth; consider ye therefore in all your heart and in all your soul, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, not one thing hath failed thereof. 15 And it shall come to pass, that as all the good things are come upon you of which the LORD your God spoke unto you, so shall the LORD bring upon you all the evil things, until He have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

16 When ye transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which He hath given unto you.'

24 And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said unto all the people: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Your fathers dwelt of old time beyond the River, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nahor; and they served other gods. 3 And I took your father Abraham from beyond the River, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. 4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau; and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; and Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. 5 And I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did in the midst thereof; and afterward I brought you out. 6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt; and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and with horsemen unto the Red Sea. 7 And when they cried out unto the LORD, He put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes saw what I did in Egypt; and ye dwelt in the wilderness many days. 8 And I brought

you into the land of the Amorites, that dwelt beyond the Jordan; and they fought with you; and I gave them into your hand, and ye possessed their land; and I destroyed them from before you. 9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and fought against Israel; and he sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you. 10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he even blessed you; so I delivered you out of his hand. 11 And ye went over the Jordan, and came unto Jericho; and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Girgashite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I delivered them into your hand. 12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; not with thy sword, nor with thy bow. 13 And I gave you a land whereon thou hadst not laboured, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell therein; of vineyards and olive-yards which ye planted not do ye eat. 14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve Him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. 15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.'

16 And the people answered and said: 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD,

to serve other gods; 17 for the LORD our God, He it is that brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and that did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the peoples through the midst of whom we passed; 18 and the LORD drove out from before us all the peoples, even the Amorites that dwelt in the land; therefore we also will serve the LORD; for He is our God.'

19 And Joshua said unto the people: 'Ye cannot serve the LORD; for He is a holy God; He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgression nor your sins. 20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then He will turn and do you evil, and consume you, after that He hath done you good.'

21 And the people said unto Joshua: 'Nay; but we will serve the LORD.' 22 And Joshua said unto the people: 'Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve Him.'—And they said: 'We are witnesses.'—23 'Now therefore put away the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD, the God of Israel.' 24 And the people said unto Joshua: 'The LORD our God will we serve, and unto His voice will we hearken.'

25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a great stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. 27 And Joshua said unto all the people: 'Be-

hold, this stone shall be a witness against us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke unto us; it shall be therefore a witness against you, lest ye deny your God.' 23 So Joshua sent the people away, every man unto his inheritance.

29 And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being a hundred and ten years old. 30 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-serah, which is in the hill-country of Ephraim, on the north of the mountain of Gaash. 31 And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, and had known all the work of the LORD, that He had wrought for Israel. 32 And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in the parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for a hundred pieces of money; and they became the inheritance of the children of Joseph. 33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in the Hill of Phinehas his son, which was given him in mount Ephraim.

JUDGES

Defeat of the Tyrant

5 Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying:

2 When men let grow their hair in Israel,

When the people offer themselves willingly,
Bless ye the LORD.
3 Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes;
I, unto the LORD will I sing;
I will sing praise to the LORD, the God of Israel.

4 LORD, when Thou didst go forth out of Seir,
When Thou didst march out of the field of Edom,
The earth trembled, the heavens also dropped,
Yea, the clouds dropped water.
5 The mountains quaked at the presence of the LORD,
Even yon Sinai at the presence of the LORD, the God of Israel.

6 In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath,
In the days of Jael, the highways ceased,
And the travellers walked through byways.
7 The rulers ceased in Israel, they ceased,
Until that thou didst arise, Deborah,
That thou didst arise a mother in Israel.
8 They chose new gods;
Then was war in the gates;
Was there a shield or spear seen
Among forty thousand in Israel?
9 My heart is toward the governors of Israel,
That offered themselves willingly among the people.
Bless ye the LORD.
10 Ye that ride on white asses,
Ye that sit on rich cloths,
And ye that walk by the way, tell of it;

11 Louder than the voice of archers, by the watering-troughs!
There shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD,
Even the righteous acts of His rulers in Israel.
Then the people of the LORD went down to the gates.

12 Awake, awake, Deborah;
Awake, awake, utter a song;
Arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.
13 Then made He a remnant to have dominion over the nobles and the people;
The LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.
14 Out of Ephraim came they whose root is in Amalek;
After thee, Benjamin, among thy peoples;
Out of Machir came down governors,
And out of Zebulun they that handle the marshal's staff.
15 And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah;
As was Issachar, so was Barak;
Into the valley they rushed forth at his feet.
Among the divisions of Reuben
There were great resolves of heart.
16 Why sattest thou among the sheep-folds,
To hear the pipings for the flocks?
At the divisions of Reuben
There were great searchings of heart.
17 Gilead abode beyond the Jordan;
And Dan, why doth he sojourn by the ships?

Asher dwelt at the shore of the sea,
And abideth by its bays.
18 Zebulun is a people that jeoparded their
lives unto the death,
And Naphtali, upon the high places of the
field.

19 The kings came, they fought;
Then fought the kings of Canaan,
In Taanach by the waters of Megiddo;
They took no gain of money.
20 They fought from heaven,
The stars in their courses fought against
Sisera.
21 The brook Kishon swept them away,
That ancient brook, the brook Kishon.
O my soul, tread them down with strength.
22 Then did the horsehoofs stamp
By reason of the prancings, the prancings of
their mighty ones
23 'Curse ye Meroz', said the angel of the LORD,
'Curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof,
Because they came not to the help of the
LORD,
To the help of the LORD against the mighty.'
24 Blessed above women shall Jael be,
The wife of Heber the Kenite,
Above women in the tent shall she be
blessed.
25 Water he asked, milk she gave him;
In a lordly bowl she brought him curd.
26 Her hand she put to the tent-pin,
And her right hand to the workmen's
hammer;
And with the hammer she smote Sisera,

she smote through his head,
Yea, she pierced and struck through his temples.
27 At her feet he sunk, he fell, he lay;
At her feet he sunk, he fell;
Where he sunk, there he fell down dead.

28 Through the window she looked forth, and peered,
The mother of Sisera, through the lattice:
'Why is his chariot so long in coming?
Why tarry the wheels of his chariots?'
29 The wisest of her princesses answer her,
Yea, she returneth answer to herself:
30 'Are they not finding, are they not dividing the spoil?
A damsel, two damsels to every man;
To Sisera a spoil of dyed garments,
A spoil of dyed garments of embroidery,
Two dyed garments of broidery for the neck of every spoiler?'

31 So perish all Thine enemies, O LORD;
But they that love Him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might.
And the land had rest forty years.

Gideon

6 And the children of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years. 2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel; and because of Midian the children of Israel made them the dens which are

in the mountains, and the caves, and the strongholds. 3 And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east; they came up against them; 4 and they encamped against them, and destroyed the produce of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance in Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass. 5 For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came in as locusts for multitude; both they and their camels were without number; and they came into the land to destroy it. 6 And Israel was brought very low because of Midian; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

7 And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of Midian, 8 that the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel; and he said unto them: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage; 9 and I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drove them out from before you, and gave you their land. 10 And I said unto you: I am the LORD your God; ye shall not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but ye have not hearkened unto My voice.'

11 And the angel of the LORD came, and sat under the terebinth which was in Ophrah, that belonged unto Joash the Abiezrite; and his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said

unto him: 'The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.' 13 And Gideon said unto him: 'Oh, my lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where are all His wondrous works which our fathers told us of, saying: Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath cast us off, and delivered us into the hand of Midian.' 14 And the LORD turned towards him, and said: 'Go in this thy might, and save Israel from the hand of Midian; have not I sent thee?' 15 And he said unto him: 'Oh, my lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is the poorest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.' 16 And the LORD said unto him: 'Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.' 17 And he said unto him: 'If now I have found favour in thy sight, then show me a sign that it is thou that talkest with me. 18 Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and lay it before thee.' And he said: 'I will tarry until thou come back.' 19 And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of meal; the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the terebinth, and presented it. 20 And the angel of God said unto him: 'Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth.' And he did so. 21 Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there went up fire out of the rock, and

consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight. 22 And Gideon saw that he was the angel of the LORD; and Gideon said: 'Alas, O Lord GOD! forasmuch as I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face.' 23 And the LORD said unto him: 'Peace be unto thee; fear not; thou shalt not die.' 24 Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it 'Adonai-shalom'; unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

25 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him: 'Take thy father's bullock, and the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the Asherah that is by it; 26 and build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this stronghold, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt-offering with the wood of the Asherah which thou shalt cut down.' 27 Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had spoken unto him; and it came to pass, because he feared his father's household and the men of the city, so that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night. 28 And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built. 29 And they said one to another: 'Who hath done this thing?' And when they inquired and asked, they said: 'Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.' 30 Then the men of the city said unto Joash: 'Bring out thy

son, that he may die; because he hath broken down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the Asherah that was by it.' 31 And Joash said unto all that stood against him: 'Will ye contend for Baal? or will ye save him? he that will contend for him, shall be put to death before morning; if he be a god, let him contend for himself, because one hath broken down his altar.' 32 Therefore on that day he was called Jerubbaal, saying: 'Let Baal contend against him, because he hath broken down his altar.'

33 Now all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east assembled themselves together; and they passed over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel. 34 But the spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon; and he blew a horn; and Abiezer was gathered together after him. 35 And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; and they also were gathered together after him; and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them. 36 And Gideon said unto God: 'If Thou wilt save Israel by my hand, as Thou hast spoken, 37 behold, I will put a fleece of wool on the threshing-floor; if there be dew on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the ground, then shall I know that Thou wilt save Israel by my hand, as Thou hast spoken.' 38 And it was so; for he rose up early on the morrow, and pressed the fleece together, and wrung dew out of the fleece, a bowlful of water. 39 And Gideon said unto God: 'Let not Thine anger be kindled against me, and I will speak but this once: let me make trial, I pray Thee, but this

once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.' 40 And God did so that night; for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

7 Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside En-harod; and the camp of Midian was on the north side of them, by Gibeath-moreh, in the valley.

2 And the LORD said unto Gideon: 'The people that are with thee are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel vaunt themselves against Me, saying: Mine own hand hath saved me. 3 Now therefore make proclamation in the ears of the people, saying: Whosoever is fearful and trembling, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead.' And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

4 And the LORD said unto Gideon: 'The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there; and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee: This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee: This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.' 5 So he brought down the people unto the water; and the LORD said unto Gideon: 'Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.' 6 And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the

people bowed down upon their knees to drink water. 7 And the LORD said unto Gideon: 'By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thy hand; and let all the people go every man unto his place.' 8 So they took the victuals of the people in their hand, and their horns; and he sent all the men of Israel every man unto his tent, but retained the three hundred men; and the camp of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

9 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him: 'Arise, get thee down upon the camp; for I have delivered it into thy hand. 10 But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Purah thy servant down to the camp. 11 And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thy hands be strengthened to go down upon the camp.' Then went he down with Purah his servant unto the outermost part of the armed men that were in the camp. 12 Now the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like locusts for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand which is upon the sea-shore for multitude. 13 And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man telling a dream unto his fellow, and saying: 'Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian, and came unto the tent, and smote it that it fell, and turned it upside down, that the tent lay flat.' 14 And his fellow answered and said: 'This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: into his hand God hath delivered Midian, and all the host.'

15 And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped; and he returned into the camp of Israel, and said: 'Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.' 16 And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put into the hands of all of them horns, and empty pitchers, with torches within the pitchers. 17 And he said unto them: 'Look on me, and do likewise; and, behold, when I come to the outermost part of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do. 18 When I blow the horn, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the horns also on every side of all the camp, and say: For the LORD and for Gideon!'

19 So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outermost part of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch, when they had but newly set the watch; and they blew the horns, and broke in pieces the pitchers that were in their hands. 20 And the three companies blew the horns, and broke the pitchers, and held the torches in their left hands, and the horns in their right hands wherewith to blow; and they cried: 'The sword for the LORD and for Gideon!' 21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp; and all the host ran; and they shouted, and fled. 22 And they blew the three hundred horns, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host; and the host fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath. 23 And the men of Israel were gathered together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Ma-

nasseh, and pursued after Midian. 24 And Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill-country of Ephraim, saying: 'Come down against Midian, and take before them the waters, as far as Beth-barah, and also the Jordan.' So all the men of Ephraim were gathered together, and took the waters as far as Beth-barah, and also the Jordan. 25 And they took the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb at the Rock of Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the Winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian; and they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon beyond the Jordan.

FIRST SAMUEL

The Birth of Samuel

1 Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of the hill-country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. 2 And he had two wives: the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. 3 And this man went up out of his city from year to year to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there priests unto the LORD. 4 And it came to pass upon a day, when Elkanah sacrificed, that he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions; 5 but unto Hannah he gave a double portion; for he loved Hannah, but the LORD had

shut up her womb. 6 And her rival vexed her sore, to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb. 7 And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she vexed her; therefore she wept, and would not eat. 8 And Elkanah her husband said unto her: 'Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?' 9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk—now Eli the priest sat upon his seat by the door-post of the temple of the LORD; 10 and she was in bitterness of soul—and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. 11 And she vowed a vow, and said: 'O LORD of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thy handmaid, and remember me, and not forget Thy handmaid, but wilt give unto Thy handmaid a man-child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.' 12 And it came to pass, as she prayed long before the LORD, that Eli watched her mouth. 13 Now Hannah, she spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice could not be heard; therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. 14 And Eli said unto her: 'How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.' 15 And Hannah answered and said: 'No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I poured out my soul before the LORD. 16 Count not thy handmaid for a wicked woman: for out of the abundance of my complaint and my vexation have I spoken hitherto.' 17 Then Eli an-

swered and said: 'Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant thy petition that thou hast asked of Him.' 18 And she said: 'Let thy servant find favour in thy sight.' So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad. 19 And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah; and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her. 20 And it came to pass, when the time was come about, that Hannah conceived, and bore a son; and she called his name Samuel: 'because I have asked him of the LORD.'

21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. 22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband: 'Until the child be weaned, when I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever.' 23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her: 'Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish His word.' So the woman tarried and gave her son suck, until she weaned him. 24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of meal, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh; and the child was young. 25 And when the bullock was slain, the child was brought to Eli. 26 And she said: 'Oh, my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD. 27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath granted me my petition which I asked of Him; 28 therefore I also have lent him to

the LORD; as long as he liveth he is lent to the LORD.' And he worshipped the LORD there.

2 And Hannah prayed, and said:
My heart exulteth in the LORD,
My horn is exalted in the LORD;
My mouth is enlarged over mine enemies;
Because I rejoice in Thy salvation.
2 There is none holy as the LORD;
For there is none beside Thee;
Neither is there any rock like our God.
3 Multiply not exceeding proud talk;
Let not arrogancy come out of your mouth;
For the LORD is a God of knowledge,
And by Him actions are weighed.
4 The bows of the mighty men are broken,
And they that stumbled are girded with strength.
5 They that were full have hired out themselves for bread;
And they that were hungry have ceased;
While the barren hath borne seven,
She that had many children hath languished.

6 The LORD killeth, and maketh alive;
He bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.
7 The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich;
He bringeth low, He also lifteth up.
8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust,
He lifteth up the needy from the dung-hill,
To make them sit with princes,
And inherit the throne of glory;
For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,
And He hath set the world upon them.

9 He will keep the feet of His holy ones,
But the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness;
For not by strength shall man prevail.
10 They that strive with the LORD shall be broken to pieces;
Against them will He thunder in heaven;
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
And He will give strength unto His king,
And exalt the horn of His anointed.

A Prophet's View of the Kingship

8 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his first-born was Joel; and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beer-sheba. 3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted justice.

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah. 5 And they said unto him: 'Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways; now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.' 6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said: 'Give us a king to judge us.' And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. 7 And the LORD said unto Samuel: 'Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee; for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected Me, that I should not be king over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, in that they have for-

saken Me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. 9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice; howbeit thou shalt earnestly forewarn them, and shalt declare unto them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.'

10 And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. 11 And he said: 'This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: he will take your sons, and appoint them unto him, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and they shall run before his chariots. 12 And he will appoint them unto him for captains of thousands, and captains of fifties; and to plow his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and the instruments of his chariots. 13 And he will take your daughters to be perfumers, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. 14 And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive-yards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. 15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. 16 And he wil[1] take your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. 17 He will take the tenth of your flocks; and ye shall be his servants. 18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king whom ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not answer you in that day.' 19 But the people refused to hearken unto the voice of Samuel; and they said: 'Nay; but there shall be a king over us; 20 that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out

before us, and fight our battles.' 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he spoke them in the ears of the LORD. 22 And the LORD said to Samuel: 'Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king.' And Samuel said unto the men of Israel: 'Go ye every man unto his city.'

The Just Judge

12 And Samuel said unto all Israel: 'Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you. 2 And now, behold, the king walketh before you; and I am old and gray-headed; and, behold, my sons are with you; and I have walked before you from my youth unto this day. 3 Here I am; witness against me before the LORD, and before His anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? or whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I taken a ransom to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.' 4 And they said: 'Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken aught of any man's hand.' 5 And he said unto them: 'The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found aught in my hand.' And they said: 'He is witness.'

The Rule of Saul

13 Saul was [a]—— years old when he began to reign; and two years he reigned over Israel. 2 And Saul chose him three thousand

[a] The number is wanting in the Hebrew.

men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmas and in the mount of Beth-el, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeath-benjamin; and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent. 3 And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the horn throughout all the land, saying: 'Let the Hebrews hear.' 4 And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten the garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also had made himself odious with the Philistines. And the people were gathered together after Saul to Gilgal.

5 And the Philistines assembled themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea-shore in multitude; and they came up, and pitched in Michmas, eastward of Beth-aven. 6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait—for the people were distressed—then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in holds, and in pits. 7 Now some of the Hebrews had gone over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead; but as for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed; but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. 9 And Saul said: 'Bring hither to me the burnt-offering and the peace-offerings.' And he offered the burnt-offering. 10 And it came to pass that, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt-offering, behold, Sam-

uel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. 11 And Samuel said: 'What hast thou done?' And Saul said: 'Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines assembled themselves together against Michmas; 12 therefore said I: Now will the Philistines come down upon me to Gilgal, and I have not entreated the favour of the LORD; I forced myself therefore, and offered the burnt-offering.' 13 And Samuel said to Saul: 'Thou hast done foolishly; thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which He commanded thee; for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. 14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue; the LORD hath sought him a man after His own heart, and the LORD hath appointed him to be prince over His people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.'

15 And Samuel arose, and got him up from Gilgal unto Gibeath-benjamin. And Saul numbered the people that were present with him, about six hundred men. 16 And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that were present with them, abode in Gibeath-benjamin; but the Philistines encamped in Michmas. 17 And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way that leadeth to Ophrah, unto the land of Shual; 18 and another company turned the way to Beth-horon; and another company turned the way of the border that looketh down upon the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

19 Now there was no smith found throughout
all the land of Israel; for the Philistines said:
'Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears';
20 but all the Israelites went down to the Phil-
istines, to sharpen every man his plowshare,
and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.
21 And the price of the filing was a pim for
the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the
forks with three teeth, and for the axes; and to
set the goads. 22 So it came to pass in the day
of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear
found in the hand of any of the people that
were with Saul and Jonathan; but with Saul
and with Jonathan his son was there found.
23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out
unto the pass of Michmas.

14 Now it fell upon a day, that Jonathan the
son of Saul said unto the young man that
bore his armour: 'Come and let us go over to
the Philistines' garrison, that is on yonder side.'
But he told not his father. 2 And Saul tarried
in the uttermost part of Gibeah under the pome-
granate-tree which is in Migron; and the peo-
ple that were with him were about six hundred
men, 3 and Ahijah, the son of Ahitub, Icha-
bod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of
Eli, the priest of the LORD in Shiloh, wearing an
ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan
was gone. 4 And between the passes, by which
Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines'
garrison, there was a rocky crag on the one side,
and a rocky crag on the other side; and the
name of the one was Bozez, and the name of
the other Seneh. 5 The one crag rose up on

the north in front of Michmas, and the other on the south in front of Geba.

6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bore his armour: 'Come and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will work for us; for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.' 7 And his armour-bearer said unto him: 'Do all that is in thy heart; turn thee, behold I am with thee according to thy heart.' 8 Then said Jonathan: 'Behold, we will pass over unto the men, and we will disclose ourselves unto them. 9 If they say thus unto us: Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. 10 But if they say thus: Come up unto us; then we will go up; for the LORD hath delivered them into our hand; and this shall be the sign unto us.' 11 And both of them disclosed themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines; and the Philistines said: 'Behold Hebrews coming forth out of the holes where they hid themselves.' 12 And the men of the garrison spoke to Jonathan and his armour-bearer, and said: 'Come up to us, and we will show you a thing.' And Jonathan said unto his armour-bearer: 'Come up after me; for the LORD hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.' 13 And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armour-bearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan; and his armour-bearer slew them after him. 14 And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armour-bearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were half a furrow's length in an acre of land. 15 And there

was a trembling in the camp in the field, and among all the people; the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled; and the earth quaked; so it grew into a terror from God. 16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeath-benjamin looked; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and they went hither and thither.

17 Then said Saul unto the people that were with him: 'Number now, and see who is gone from us.' And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armour-bearer were not there. 18 And Saul said unto Ahijah: 'Bring hither the ark of God.' For the ark of God was there at that time with the children of Israel. 19 And it came to pass, while Saul talked unto the priest, that the tumult that was in the camp of the Philistines went on and increased; and Saul said unto the priest: 'Withdraw thy hand.' 20 And Saul and all the people that were with him were gathered together, and came to the battle; and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, and there was a very great discomfiture. 21 Now the Hebrews that were with the Philistines as beforetime, and that went up with them into the camp round about; even they also turned to be with the Israelites that were with Saul and Jonathan. 22 Likewise all the men of Israel that had hid themselves in the hill-country of Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle. 23 So the LORD saved Israel that day; and the battle passed on as far as Beth-aven.

24 And the men of Israel were distressed that day; but Saul adjured the people, saying:

'Cursed be the man that eateth any food until it be evening, and I be avenged on mine enemies.' So none of the people tasted food. 25 And all the people came into the forest; and there was honey upon the ground. 26 And when the people were come unto the forest, behold a flow of honey; but no man put his hand to his mouth; for the people feared the oath. 27 But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the people with the oath; and he put forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened. 28 Then answered one of the people, and said: 'Thy father straitly charged the people with an oath, saying: Cursed be the man that eateth food this day; and the people are faint.' 29 Then said Jonathan: 'My father hath troubled the land; see, I pray you, how mine eyes are brightened, because I tasted a little of this honey. 30 How much more, if haply the people had eaten freely to-day of the spoil of their enemies which they found? had there not been then a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?' 31 And they smote of the Philistines that day from Michmas to Aijalon; and the people were very faint. 32 And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground; and the people did eat them with the blood. 33 Then they told Saul, saying: 'Behold, the people sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood.' And he said: 'Ye have dealt treacherously; roll a great stone unto me this day.' 34 And Saul said: 'Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them:

Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood.' And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there. 35 And Saul built an altar unto the LORD; the same was the first altar that he built unto the LORD.

36 And Saul said: 'Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them.' And they said: 'Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee.' Then said the priest: 'Let us draw near hither unto God.' 37 And Saul asked counsel of God: 'Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt Thou deliver them into the hand of Israel?' But He answered him not that day. 38 And Saul said: 'Draw nigh hither, all ye chiefs of the people; and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day. 39 For, as the LORD liveth, who saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.' But there was not a man among all the people that answered him. 40 Then said he unto all Israel: 'Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side.' And the people said unto Saul: 'Do what seemeth good unto thee.' 41 Therefore Saul said unto the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Declare the right.' And Jonathan and Saul were taken by lot; but the people escaped. 42 And Saul said: 'Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son.' And Jonathan was taken. 43 Then Saul said to Jonathan: 'Tell me what thou hast done.' And Jonathan told him, and said: 'I did certainly taste a little

honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand; here am I: I will die.' 44 And Saul said: 'God do so and more also; thou shalt surely die, Jonathan.' 45 And the people said unto Saul: 'Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? Far from it; as the LORD liveth, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he hath wrought with God this day.' So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not. 46 Then Saul went up from following the Philistines; and the Philistines went to their own place.

47 So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines; and whithersoever he turned himself, he put them to the worse. 48 And he did valiantly, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.

49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishvi, and Malchi-shua; and the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal; 50 and the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam the daughter of Ahimaaz; and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle. 51 And Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.

52 And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul; and when Saul saw any mighty man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.

15 And Samuel said unto Saul: 'The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over His people, over Israel; now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD. 2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts: I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he set himself against him in the way, when he came up out of Egypt. 3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.'

4 And Saul summoned the people, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah. 5 And Saul came to the city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley. 6 And Saul said unto the Kenites: 'Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them; for ye showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt.' So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. 7 And Saul smote the Amalekites, from Havilah as thou goest to Shur, that is in front of Egypt. 8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. 9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, even the young of the second birth, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them; but every thing that was of no account and feeble, that they destroyed utterly.

10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying: 11 'It repenteth Me that I have set up Saul to be king; for he is turned back

from following Me, and hath not performed My commandments.' And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night. 12 And Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning; and it was told Samuel, saying: 'Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he is setting him up a monument, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.' 13 And Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said unto him: 'Blessed be thou of the LORD; I have performed the commandment of the LORD.' 14 And Samuel said: 'What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?' 15 And Saul said: 'They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.' 16 Then Samuel said unto Saul: 'Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night.' And he said unto him: 'Say on.'

17 And Samuel said: 'Though thou be little in thine own sight, art thou not head of the tribes of Israel? And the LORD anointed thee king over Israel; 18 and the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said: Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed. 19 Wherefore then didst thou not hearken to the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst that which was evil in the sight of the LORD?' 20 And Saul said unto Samuel: 'Yea, I have hearkened to the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly de-

stroyed the Amalekites. 21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the devoted things, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.' 22 And Samuel said:

'Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt-offerings and sacrifices,
As in hearkening to the voice of the LORD?
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
And to hearken than the fat of rams.
23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,
And stubbornness is as idolatry and teraphim.

Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, He hath also rejected thee from being king.' 24 And Saul said unto Samuel: 'I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words; because I feared the people, and hearkened to their voice. 25 Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD.' 26 And Samuel said unto Saul: 'I will not return with thee; for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.' 27 And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his robe, and it rent. 28 And Samuel said unto him: 'The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou. 29 And also the Glory of Israel will not lie nor repent; for He is not a man, that He should repent.' 30 Then he said: 'I have sinned; yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD

thy God.' 31 So Samuel returned after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

David and Goliath

17 Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and they were gathered together at Socoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. 2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched in the vale of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines. 3 And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side; and there was a valley between them. 4 And there went out a champion from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. 5 And he had a helmet of brass upon his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass. 6 And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a javelin of brass between his shoulders. 7 And the shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. 8 And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them: 'Why do ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. 9 If he be able to fight with me, and kill me, then will we be your servants; but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our

servants, and serve us.' 10 And the Philistine said: 'I do taunt the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.' 11 And when Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons; and the man was an old man in the days of Saul, stricken in years among men. 13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle; and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the first-born, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. 14 And David was the youngest; and the three eldest followed Saul.— 15 Now David went to and fro from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem.—16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

17 And Jesse said unto David his son: 'Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to thy brethren. 18 And bring these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and to thy brethren shalt thou bring greetings, and take their pledge; 19 now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, are in the vale of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.' 20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the barricade, as the host which was going forth to the fight shouted for the battle. 21 And Israel and the Philistines put the battle in array, army

against army. 22 And David left his baggage in the hand of the keeper of the baggage, and ran to the army, and came and greeted his brethren. 23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke according to the same words; and David heard them. 24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. 25 And the men of Israel said: 'Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to taunt Israel is he come up; and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.'

26 And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying: 'What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the taunt from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should have taunted the armies of the living God?' 27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying: 'So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.' 28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said: 'Why art thou come down? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy presumptuousness, and the naughtiness of thy heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.' 29 And David said: 'What have I now done? Was it not but a word?' 30 And he turned away from him toward another, and

spoke after the same manner; and the people answered him after the former manner.

31 And when the words were heard which David spoke, they rehearsed them before Saul; and he was taken to him. 32 And David said to Saul: 'Let no man's heart fail within him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.' 33 And Saul said to David: 'Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.' 34 And David said unto Saul: 'Thy servant kept his father's sheep; and when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock, 35 I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth; and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. 36 Thy servant smote both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath taunted the armies of the living God.' 37 And David said: 'The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.' And Saul said unto David: 'Go, and the LORD shall be with thee.' 38 And Saul clad David with his apparel, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head, and he clad him with a coat of mail. 39 And David girded his sword upon his apparel, and he essayed to go [, but could not]; for he had not tried it. And David said unto Saul: 'I cannot go with these; for I have not tried them.' And David put them off him. 40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and

put them in the shepherd's bag which he had, even in his scrip; and his sling was in his hand; and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came nearer and nearer unto David; and the man that bore the shield went before him. 42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and withal of a fair countenance. 43 And the Philistine said unto David: 'Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?' And the Philistine cursed David by his god. 44 And the Philistine said to David: 'Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.' 45 Then said David to the Philistine: 'Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin; but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast taunted. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into my hand; and I will smite thee, and take thy head from off thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel; 47 and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hand.' 48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slung it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead; and the stone

sank into his forehead, and he fell upon his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. 51 And David ran, and stood over the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw that their mighty man was dead, they fled. 52 And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou comest to Gai, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron. 53 And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their camp. 54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host: 'Abner, whose son is this youth?' And Abner said: 'As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.' 56 And the king said: 'Inquire thou whose son the stripling is.' 57 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. 58 And Saul said to him: 'Whose son art thou, thou young man?' And David answered: 'I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Beth-lehemite.'

David and Jonathan

20 18 And Jonathan said unto him: 'To-
morrow is the new moon; and thou wilt be
missed, because thy seat will be empty. 19 And
in the third day thou shalt hide thyself well,
and come to the place where thou didst hide
thyself in the day of work, and shalt remain by
the stone Ezel. 20 And I will shoot three ar-
rows to the side-ward, as though I shot at a
mark. 21 And, behold, I will send the lad: Go,
find the arrows. If I say unto the lad: Behold,
the arrows are on this side of thee; take them,
and come; for there is peace to thee and no
hurt, as the LORD liveth. 22 But if I say thus
unto the boy: Behold, the arrows are beyond
thee; go thy way; for the LORD hath sent thee
away. 23 And as touching the matter which I
and thou have spoken of, behold, the LORD is
between me and thee for ever.'

24 So David hid himself in the field; and
when the new moon was come, the king sat him
down to the meal to eat. 25 And the king sat
upon his seat, as at other times, even upon the
seat by the wall; and Jonathan stood up, and
Abner sat by Saul's side; but David's place was
empty. 26 Nevertheless Saul spoke not any
thing that day; for he thought: 'Something hath
befallen him, he is unclean; surely he is not
clean.' 27 And it came to pass on the morrow
after the new moon, which was the second day,
that David's place was empty; and Saul said
unto Jonathan his son: 'Wherefore cometh not
the son of Jesse to the meal, neither yesterday,

nor to-day?' 28 And Jonathan answered Saul: 'David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Beth-lehem; 29 and he said: Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me; and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he is not come unto the king's table.'

30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him: 'Thou son of perverse rebellion, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own shame, and unto the shame of thy mother's nakedness? 31 For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the earth, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he deserveth to die.' 32 And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him: 'Wherefore should he be put to death? what hath he done?' 33 And Saul cast his spear at him to smite him; whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to put David to death. 34 So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no food the second day of the month; for he was grieved for David, and because his father had put him to shame.

35 And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him. 36 And he said unto his lad: 'Run, find now the arrows which I shoot.' And as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. 37 And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after

the lad, and said: 'Is not the arrow beyond thee?' 38 And Jonathan cried after the lad: 'Make speed, hasten, stay not.' And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. 39 But the lad knew not any thing; only Jonathan and David knew the matter. 40 And Jonathan gave his weapons unto his lad, and said unto him: 'Go, carry them to the city.' 41 And as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of a place toward the South, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times; and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded. 42 And Jonathan said to David: 'Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying: The LORD shall be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed, forever.'

Reconciliation of Saul and David

24 2 And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying: 'Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.' 3 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. 4 And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. 5 And the men of David said unto him: 'Behold the day in which the LORD hath said unto thee: Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thy hand, and thou shalt do to him as it

shall seem good unto thee.' Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. 6 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. 7 And he said unto his men: 'The LORD forbid it me, that I should do this thing unto my lord, the LORD's anointed, to put forth my hand against him, seeing he is the LORD's anointed.' 8 So David checked his men with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. And Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

9 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying: 'My lord the king.' And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth, and prostrated himself. 10 And David said to Saul: 'Wherefore hearkenest thou to men's words, saying: Behold, David seeketh thy hurt? 11 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to-day into my hand in the cave; and some bade me kill thee; but mine eye spared thee; and I said: I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed. 12 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against thee, though thou layest wait for my soul to take it. 13 The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee; but my hand shall not be upon thee. 14 As saith the proverb of the ancients: Out of the wicked cometh forth wicked-

ness; but my hand shall not be upon thee. 15 After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. 16 The LORD therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thy hand.'

17 And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said: 'Is this thy voice, my son David?' And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. 18 And he said to David: 'Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast rendered unto me good, whereas I have rendered unto thee evil. 19 And thou hast declared this day how that thou hast dealt well with me; forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me up into thy hand, thou didst not kill me 20 For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that which thou hast done unto me this day. 21 And now, behold, I know that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thy hand. 22 Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.' 23 And David swore unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men got them up unto the stronghold.

SECOND SAMUEL

David's Lament

1 And it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had abode two days in Ziklag; 2 it came even to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his clothes rent, and earth upon his head; and so it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the earth, and prostrated himself. 3 And David said unto him: 'From whence comest thou?' And he said unto him: 'Out of the camp of Israel am I escaped.' 4 And David said unto him: 'How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me.' And he answered: 'The people are fled from the battle, and many of the people also are fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also.' 5 And David said unto the young man that told him: 'How knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?' 6 And the young man that told him said: 'As I happened by chance upon mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and the horsemen pressed hard upon him. 7 And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto me. And I answered: Here am I. 8 And he said unto me: Who art thou? And I answered him: I am an Amalekite. 9 And he said unto me: Stand, I pray thee, beside me, and slay me, for the agony hath taken hold of me; because my life is just yet in me. 10 So I stood beside him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could

not live after that he was fallen; and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.'

11 Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him. 12 And they wailed, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword. 13 And David said unto the young man that told him: 'Whence art thou?' And he answered: 'I am the son of an Amalekite stranger.' 14 And David said unto him: 'How wast thou not afraid to put forth thy hand to destroy the LORD's anointed?' 15 And David called one of the young men, and said: 'Go near, and fall upon him.' And he smote him that he died. 16 And David said unto him: 'Thy blood be upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying: I have slain the LORD's anointed.'

17 And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son, 18 and said—To teach the sons of Judah the bow. Behold, it is written in the book of Jashar:

19 Thy beauty, O Israel, upon thy high places is slain!
How are the mighty fallen!

20 Tell it not in Gath,
Publish it not in the streets of Ashkelon;
Lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice,
Lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

21 Ye mountains of Gilboa,
Let there be no dew nor rain upon you,
Neither fields of choice fruits;
For there the shield of the mighty was vilely
cast away,
The shield of Saul, not anointed with oil.
22 From the blood of the slain, from the fat of
the mighty,
The bow of Jonathan turned not back,
And the sword of Saul returned not empty.
23 Saul and Jonathan, the lovely and the
pleasant
In their lives, even in their death they
were not divided;
They were swifter than eagles,
They were stronger than lions.
24 Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
Who clothed you in scarlet, with other de-
lights,
Who put ornaments of gold upon your
apparel.
25 How are the mighty fallen in the midst of
the battle!

Jonathan upon thy high places is slain!
26 I am distressed for thee, my brother Jon-
athan;
Very pleasant hast thou been unto me;
Wonderful was thy love to me,
Passing the love of women.
27 How are the mighty fallen,
And the weapons of war perished!

The Promise to the House of David

7 And it came to pass, when the king dwelt
in his house, and the LORD had given him
rest from all his enemies round about, 2 that
the king said unto Nathan the prophet: 'See
now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of
God dwelleth within curtains.' 3 And Nathan
said to the king: 'Go, do all that is in thy
heart; for the LORD is with thee.' 4 And it
came to pass the same night, that the word of
the LORD came unto Nathan, saying: 5 'Go and
tell My servant David: Thus saith the LORD:
Shalt thou build Me a house for Me to dwell
in? 6 for I have not dwelt in a house since the
day that I brought up the children of Israel out
of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked
in a tent and in a tabernacle. 7 In all places
wherein I have walked among all the children
of Israel, spoke I a word with any of the tribes
of Israel, whom I commanded to feed My peo-
ple Israel, saying: Why have ye not built Me a
house of cedar? 8 Now therefore thus shalt
thou say unto My servant David: Thus saith the
LORD of hosts: I took thee from the sheepcote,
from following the sheep, that thou shouldest
be prince over My people, over Israel. 9 And
I have been with thee whithersoever thou didst
go, and have cut off all thine enemies from
before thee; and I will make thee a great name,
like unto the name of the great ones that are
in the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place
for My people Israel, and will plant them, that
they may dwell in their own place, and be dis-

quieted no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as at the first, 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will cause thee to rest from all thine enemies. Moreover the LORD telleth thee that the LORD will make thee a house. 12 When thy days are fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, that shall proceed out of thy body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14 I will be to him for a father, and he shall be to Me for a son; if he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men; 15 but My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. 16 And thy house and thy kingdom shall be made sure for ever before thee; thy throne shall be established for ever.' 17 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

18 Then David the king went in, and sat before the LORD; and he said: 'Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that Thou hast brought me thus far? 19 And this was yet a small thing in Thine eyes, O Lord GOD; but Thou hast spoken also of Thy servant's house for a great while to come; and this too after the manner of great men, O Lord GOD. 20 And what can David say more unto Thee? for Thou knowest Thy servant, O Lord GOD. 21 For Thy word's sake, and according to Thine own heart, hast Thou wrought all this greatness, to make Thy serv-

ant know it. 22 Therefore Thou art great, O LORD God; for there is none like Thee, neither is there any God beside Thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 23 And who is like Thy people, like Israel, a nation one in the earth, whom God went to redeem unto Himself for a people, and to make Him a name, and to do for Thy land great things and tremendous, even for you, [in driving out] from before Thy people, whom Thou didst redeem to Thee out of Egypt, the nations and their gods? 24 And Thou didst establish to Thyself Thy people Israel to be a people unto Thee for ever; and Thou, LORD, becamest their God. 25 And now, O LORD God, the word that Thou hast spoken concerning Thy servant, and concerning his house, confirm Thou it for ever, and do as Thou hast spoken. 26 And let Thy name be magnified for ever, that it may be said: The LORD of hosts is God over Israel; and the house of Thy servant David shall be established before Thee. 27 For Thou, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, hast revealed to Thy servant, saying: I will build thee a house; therefore hath Thy servant taken heart to pray this prayer unto Thee. 28 And now, O Lord GOD, Thou alone art God, and Thy words are truth, and Thou hast promised this good thing unto Thy servant; 29 now therefore let it please Thee to bless the house of Thy servant, that it may continue for ever before Thee; for Thou, O Lord GOD, hast spoken it; and through Thy blessing let the house of Thy servant be blessed for ever.'

The Fearless Prophet

11 And it came to pass, at the return of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried at Jerusalem.

2 And it came to pass at eventide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said: 'Is not this Bath-sheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?' 4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness; and she returned unto her house. 5 And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said: 'I am with child.'

6 And David sent to Joab [, saying]: 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 And when Uriah was come unto him, David asked of him how Joab did, and how the people fared, and how the war prospered. 8 And David said to Uriah: 'Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet.' And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of food from the king. 9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house. 10 And when they had told

David, saying: 'Uriah went not down unto his house', David said unto Uriah: 'Art thou not come from a journey? wherefore didst thou not go down unto thy house?' 11 And Uriah said unto David: 'The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in booths; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open field; shall I then go into my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.' 12 And David said to Uriah: 'Tarry here to-day also, and to-morrow I will let thee depart.' So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow. 13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk; and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 And he wrote in the letter, saying: 'Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.' 16 And it came to pass, when Joab kept watch upon the city, that he assigned Uriah unto the place where he knew that valiant men were. 17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab; and there fell some of the people, even of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also. 18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war; 19 and he charged the messenger, saying: 'When thou hast made an end of telling all the things concerning the war unto the king, 20 it shall be that, if

the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee: Wherefore went ye so nigh unto the city to fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the wall? 21 who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? did not a woman cast an upper millstone upon him from the wall, that he died at Thebez? why went ye so nigh the wall? then shalt thou say: Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.'

22 So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Joab had sent him for. 23 And the messenger said unto David: 'The men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, and we were upon them even unto the entrance of the gate. 24 And the shooters shot at thy servants from off the wall; and some of the king's servants are dead, and thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' 25 Then David said unto the messenger: 'Thus shalt thou say unto Joab: Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth in one manner or another; make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it; and encourage thou him.'

26 And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she made lamentation for her husband. 27 And when the mourning was past, David sent and took her home to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

12 And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him: 'There were two men in one city: the one rich, and the other poor. 2 The rich man

had exceeding many flocks and herds; 3 but the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and reared; and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own morsel, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. 4 And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him, but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.' 5 And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan: 'As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this deserveth to die; 6 and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.'

7 And Nathan said to David: 'Thou art the man.'

FIRST KINGS

Solomon's Wisdom

3 3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father; only he sacrificed and offered in the high places.

4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place; a thousand burnt-offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar. 5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said: 'Ask what I shall give thee.' 6 And Solomon said: 'Thou hast shown unto Thy servant David

my father great kindness, according as he walked before Thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with Thee; and Thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that Thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 And now, O LORD my God, Thou hast made Thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child; I know not how to go out or come in. 8 And Thy servant is in the midst of Thy people which Thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 9 Give Thy servant therefore an understanding heart to judge Thy people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this Thy great people?' 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 And God said unto him: 'Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern justice; 12 behold, I have done according to thy word: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there hath been none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. 13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches and honour—so that there hath not been any among the kings like unto thee—all thy days. 14 And if thou wilt walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.' 15 And Solomon awoke, and, be-

hold, it was a dream; and he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt-offerings, and offered peace-offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

16 Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him. 17 And the one woman said: 'Oh, my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. 18 And it came to pass the third day after I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also; and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house. 19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlay it. 20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thy handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom. 21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead; but when I had looked well at it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, whom I did bear.' 22 And the other woman said: 'Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son.' And this said: 'No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son.' Thus they spoke before the king.

23 Then said the king: 'The one saith: This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead; and the other saith: Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.' 24 And the king said: 'Fetch me a sword.' And they brought a sword before the king. 25 And the king said: 'Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.'

26 Then spoke the woman, whose the living child was, unto the king, for her heart yearned upon her son, and she said: 'Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it.' But the other said: 'It shall be neither mine nor thine; divide it.' 27 Then the king answered and said: 'Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.' 28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king; for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do justice.

Elijah

17 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said unto Ahab: 'As the LORD, the God of Israel, liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.' 2 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying: 3 'Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before the Jordan. 4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.' 5 So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD; for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before the Jordan. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook. 7 And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

8 And the word of the LORD came unto him,

saying: 9 'Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to sustain thee.' 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath; and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her, and said: 'Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.' 11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said: 'Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thy hand.' 12 And she said: 'As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, only a handful of meal in the jar, and a little oil in the cruse; and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.' 13 And Elijah said unto her: 'Fear not; go and do as thou hast said; but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it forth unto me, and afterward make for thee and for thy son. 14 For thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: The jar of meal shall not be spent, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the land.' 15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah; and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. 16 The jar of meal was not spent, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which He spoke by Elijah.

17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him. 18 And she said unto Elijah: 'What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto

me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?' 19 And he said unto her: 'Give me thy son.' And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into the upper chamber, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed. 20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said: 'O LORD my God, hast Thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?' 21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said: 'O LORD my God, I pray Thee, let this child's soul come back into him.' 22 And the LORD hearkened unto the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back into him, and he revived. 23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the upper chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother; and Elijah said: 'See, thy son liveth.' 24 And the woman said to Elijah: 'Now I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.'

18 And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying: 'Go, show thyself unto Ahab, and I will send rain upon the land.' 2 And Elijah went to show himself unto Ahab.

And the famine was sore in Samaria. 3 And Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household.—Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly; 4 for it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took a hundred prophets, and hid them fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.—5 And Ahab said unto Obadiah: 'Go through the land, unto all

the springs of water, and unto all the brooks; peradventure we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.' 6 So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

7 And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him; and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said: 'Is it thou, my lord Elijah?' 8 And he answered him: 'It is I; go, tell thy lord: Behold, Elijah is here.' 9 And he said: 'Wherein have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? 10 As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee; and when they said: He is not here, he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not. 11 And now thou sayest: Go, tell thy lord: Behold, Elijah is here. 12 And it will come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the spirit of the LORD will carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he will slay me; but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth. 13 Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid a hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? 14 And now thou sayest: Go, tell thy lord: Behold, Elijah is here; and he will slay me.' 15 And Elijah said: 'As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself unto him to-day.'

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. 17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him. 'Is it thou, thou troubler of Israel?' 18 And he answered: 'I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed the Baalim. 19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the Asherah four hundred, that eat at Jezebel's table.'

20 And Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. 21 And Elijah came near unto all the people, and said: 'How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.' And the people answered him not a word. 22 Then said Elijah unto the people: 'I, even I only, am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. 23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under; and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under. 24 And call ye on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God.' And all the people answered and said: 'It is well spoken.'

25 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal: 'Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and

dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under.' 26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying: 'O Baal, answer us.' But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they danced in halting wise about the altar which was made. 27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said: 'Cry aloud; for he is a god; either he is musing, or he is gone aside, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.' 28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with swords and lances, till the blood gushed out upon them. 29 And it was so, when midday was past, that they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening offering; but there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

30 And Elijah said unto all the people: 'Come near unto me'; and all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was thrown down. 31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying: 'Israel shall be thy name.' 32 And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD; and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. 33 And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid it on the wood. 34 And he said: 'Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the burnt-offering, and on the wood.' And he said: 'Do

it the second time'; and they did it the second time. And he said: 'Do it the third time'; and they did it the third time. 35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. 36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening offering, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said: 'O LORD, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that Thou art God in Israel, and that I am Thy servant, and that I have done all these things at Thy word. 37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that Thou, LORD, art God, for Thou didst turn their heart backward.' 38 Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt-offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said: 'The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God.' 40 And Elijah said unto them: 'Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape.' And they took them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

41 And Elijah said unto Ahab: 'Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.' 42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he bowed himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees. 43 And he said to his servant: 'Go up now, look toward the sea.' And he went up, and looked, and said: 'There is nothing.' And he said: 'Go again seven times.' 44 And it came to

pass at the seventh time, that he said: 'Behold, there ariseth a cloud out of the sea, as small as a man's hand.' And he said: 'Go up, say unto Ahab: Make ready thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.' 45 And it came to pass in a little while, that the heaven grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel. 46 And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

19 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying: 'So let the gods do [to me], and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to-morrow about this time.' 3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom-tree; and he requested for himself that he might die; and said: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.' 5 And he lay down and slept under a broom-tree; and, behold, an angel touched him, and said unto him: 'Arise and eat.' 6 And he looked, and, behold, there was at his head a cake baked on the hot stones, and a cruse of water. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. 7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said: 'Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for

thee.' 8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meal forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said unto him: 'What doest thou here, Elijah?' 10 And he said: 'I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, thrown down Thine altars, and slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.' 11 And He said: 'Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD.' And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. 13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entrance of the cave.

SECOND KINGS

Elisha

5 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Aram, was a great man with his master, and held in esteem, because by him the LORD had given victory unto Aram; he was also

a mighty man of valour, but he was a leper.
2 And the Aramcans had gone out in bands,
and had brought away captive out of the land
of Israel a little maid; and she waited on
Naaman's wife. 3 And she said unto her
mistress: 'Would that my lord were with the
prophet that is in Samaria! then would he re-
cover him of his leprosy.' 4 And he went in,
and told his lord, saying: 'Thus and thus said
the maid that is of the land of Israel.' 5 And
the king of Aram said: 'Go now, and I will send
a letter unto the king of Israel.' And he de-
parted, and took with him ten talents of silver,
and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes
of raiment. 6 And he brought the letter to the
king of Israel, saying: 'And now when this
letter is come unto thee, behold, I have sent
Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest
recover him of his leprosy.' 7 And it came to
pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter,
that he rent his clothes, and said: 'Am I God,
to kill and to make alive, that this man doth
send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?
but consider, I pray you, and see how he
seeketh an occasion against me.'

8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God
heard that the king of Israel had rent his
clothes, that he sent to the king, saying: 'Where-
fore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come
now to me, and he shall know that there is a
prophet in Israel.' 9 So Naaman came with
his horses and with his chariots, and stood at
the door of the house of Elisha. 10 And Elisha
sent a messenger unto him, saying: 'Go and
wash in the Jordan seven times, and thy flesh

shall come back to thee, and thou shalt be clean.' 11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said: 'Behold, I thought: He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and recover the leper. 12 Are not Amanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean?' So he turned, and went away in a rage. 13 And his servants came near, and spoke unto him, and said: 'My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee: Wash, and be clean?' 14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh came back like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

15 And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him; and he said: 'Behold now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel; now therefore, I pray thee, take a present of thy servant.' 16 But he said: 'As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none.' And he urged him to take it; but he refused. 17 And Naaman said: 'If not, yet I pray thee let there be given to thy servant two mules' burden of earth; for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt-offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD. 18 In this thing the LORD pardon thy servant: when my master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my hand, and

I prostrate myself in the house of Rimmon, when I prostrate myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon thy servant in this thing.' 19 And he said unto him: 'Go in peace.' So he departed from him some way.

20 But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said: 'Behold, my master hath spared this Naaman the Aramean, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought; as the LORD liveth, I will surely run after him, and take somewhat of him.' 21 So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw one running after him, he alighted from the chariot to meet him, and said: 'Is all well?' 22 And he said: 'All is well. My master hath sent me, saying: Behold, even now there are come to me from the hill-country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets; give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of raiment.' 23 And Naaman said: 'Be content, take two talents.' And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of raiment, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bore them before him. 24 And when he came to the hill, he took them from their hand, and deposited them in the house; and he let the men go, and they departed. 25 But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him: 'Whence comest thou, Gehazi?' And he said: 'Thy servant went no whither.' 26 And he said unto him: 'Went not my heart [with thee], when the man turned back from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and olive-yards and vineyards, and

sheep and oxen, and men-servants and maid-servants? 27 The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever.' And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow.

Faith Victorious over Force

18 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. 2 Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah. 3 And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. 4 He removed the high places, and broke the pillars, and cut down the Asherah; and he broke in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made; for unto those days the children of Israel did offer to it; and it was called Nehushtan. 5 He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among them that were before him. 6 For he cleaved to the LORD, he departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses. 7 And the LORD was with him: whithersoever he went forth he prospered; and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not. 8 He smote the Philistines unto Gaza and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.

9 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. 10 And at the end of three years they took it; even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken. 11 And the king of Assyria carried Israel away unto Assyria, and put them in Halah, and in Habor, on the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes; 12 because they hearkened not to the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed His covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear it, nor do it.

13 Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and took them. 14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying: 'I have offended; return from me; that which thou puttest on me will I bear.' And the king of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. 15 And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house. 16 At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the door-posts which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

17 And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rab-saris and Rab-shakeh from Lachish to

king Hezekiah with a great army unto Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the fullers' field. 18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebnah the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder.

19 And Rab-shakeh said unto them: 'Say ye now to Hezekiah: Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria: What confidence is this wherein thou trustest? 20 Sayest thou that a mere word of the lips is counsel and strength for the war? Now on whom dost thou trust, that thou hast rebelled against me? 21 Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, even upon Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it; so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him. 22 But if ye say unto me: We trust in the LORD our God; is not that He, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and to Jerusalem: Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem? 23 Now therefore, I pray thee, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria, and I will give thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them. 24 How then canst thou turn away the face of one captain, even of the least of my master's servants? and yet thou puttest thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen! 25 Am I now come up without the LORD against this

place to destroy it? The LORD said unto me: Go up against this land, and destroy it.'

26 Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebnah, and Joah, unto Rab-shakeh: 'Speak, I pray thee, to thy servants in the Aramean language; for we understand it; and speak not with us in the Jews' language, in the ears of the people that are on the wall.' 27 But Rab-shakeh said unto them: 'Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men that sit on the wall, to eat their own dung, and to drink their own water with you?' 28 Then Rab-shakeh stood, and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spoke, saying: 'Hear ye the word of the great king, the king of Assyria. 29 Thus saith the king: Let not Hezekiah beguile you; for he will not be able to deliver you out of his hand; 30 neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying: The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. 31 Hearken not to Hezekiah; for thus saith the king of Assyria: Make your peace with me, and come out to me; and eat ye every one of his vine, and every one of his fig-tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cistern, 32 until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive-trees and of honey, that ye may live, and not die; and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying: The LORD will deliver us. 33 Hath any of the gods of the nations ever delivered his land out of the hand

of the king of Assyria? 34 Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah? have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? 35 Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?'

36 But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, saying: 'Answer him not.' 37 Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rab-shakeh.

19 And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD. 2 And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, unto Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz. 3 And they said unto him: 'Thus saith Hezekiah: This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of contumely; for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth. 4 It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rab-shakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to taunt the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD thy God hath heard; wherefore make prayer for the remnant that is left.' 5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah. 6 And Isaiah said unto them:

'Thus shall ye say to your master: Thus saith the LORD: Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. 7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'

8 So Rab-shakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah; for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish. 9 And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia: 'Behold, he is come out to fight against thee'; he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying: 10 'Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: Let not thy God in whom thou trustest beguile thee, saying: Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. 11 Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly; and shalt thou be delivered? 12 Have the gods of the nations delivered them, which my fathers have destroyed, Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden that were in Telassar? 13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?'

14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up unto the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. 15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said: 'O LORD, the God of Israel, that sittest upon the cherubim, Thou art the God, even Thou alone, of all the

kingdoms of the earth; Thou hast made heaven and earth. 16 Incline Thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open Thine eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, wherewith he hath sent him to taunt the living God. 17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, 18 and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them. 19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, save Thou us, I beseech Thee, out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the LORD God, even Thou only.'

20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Whereas thou hast prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard thee. 21 This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him:

The virgin daughter of Zion
Hath despised thee and laughed thee to scorn;
The daughter of Jerusalem
Hath shaken her head at thee.
22 Whom hast thou taunted and blasphemed?
And against whom hast thou exalted thy voice?
Yea, thou hast lifted up thine eyes on high,
Even against the Holy One of Israel!
23 By thy messengers thou hast taunted the Lord,
And hast said: With the multitude of my chariots

Am I come up to the height of the mountains,
To the innermost parts of Lebanon;
And I have cut down the tall cedars thereof,
And the choice cypresses thereof;
And I have entered into his farthest lodge,
The forest of his fruitful field.
24 I have digged and drunk
Strange waters,
And with the sole of my feet have I dried up
All the rivers of Egypt.

25 Hast thou not heard?
Long ago I made it,
In ancient times I fashioned it;
Now have I brought it to pass,
Yea, it is done; that fortified cities
Should be laid waste into ruinous heaps.
26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power,
They were dismayed and confounded;
They were as the grass of the field,
And as the green herb,
As the grass on the housetops,
And as corn blasted before it is grown up.

27 But I know thy sitting down, and thy going out, and thy coming in,
And thy raging against Me.
28 Because of thy raging against Me,
And for that thy tumult is come up into Mine ears,
Therefore will I put My hook in thy nose,
And My bridle in thy lips,

And I will turn thee back by the way
By which thou camest.
29 And this shall be the sign unto thee: ye
shall eat this year that which groweth of itself,
and in the second year that which springeth
of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and
reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit
thereof. 30 And the remnant that is escaped
of the house of Judah shall again take root
downward, and bear fruit upward. 31 For out
of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and out
of mount Zion they that shall escape; the zeal
of the LORD of hosts shall perform this.
32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning
the king of Assyria: He shall not come unto
this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither
shall he come before it with shield, nor cast a
mound against it. 33 By the way that he came,
by the same shall he return, and he shall not
come unto this city, saith the LORD. 34 For I
will defend this city to save it, for Mine own
sake, and for My servant David's sake.'

35 And it came to pass that night, that the
angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the
camp of the Assyrians a hundred fourscore and
five thousand; and when men arose early in the
morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.
36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed,
and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.
37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping
in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adram-
melech and Sarezer his sons smote him with the
sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat.
And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

ISAIAH

A Prophet's Indignation

1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which
he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem, in
the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah,
kings of Judah.

2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth,
For the LORD hath spoken:
Children I have reared, and brought up,
And they have rebelled against Me.
3 The ox knoweth his owner,
And the ass his master's crib;
But Israel doth not know,
My people doth not consider.

4 Ah sinful nation,
A people laden with iniquity,
A seed of evil-doers,
Children that deal corruptly;
They have forsaken the LORD,
They have contemned the Holy One of Israel,
They are turned away backward.
5 On what part will ye be yet stricken,
Seeing ye stray away more and more?
The whole head is sick,
And the whole heart faint;
6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head
There is no soundness in it;
But wounds, and bruises, and festering sores:
They have not been pressed, neither bound
up,
Neither mollified with oil.

7 Your country is desolate;
Your cities are burned with fire;
Your land, strangers devour it in your presence,
And it is desolate, as overthrown by floods.
8 And the daughter of Zion is left
As a booth in a vineyard,
As a lodge in a garden of cucumbers,
As a besieged city.
9 Except the LORD of hosts
Had left unto us a very small remnant,
We should have been as Sodom,
We should have been like unto Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of the LORD,
Ye rulers of Sodom;
Give ear unto the law of our God,
Ye people of Gomorrah.
11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto Me?
Saith the LORD;
I am full of the burnt-offerings of rams,
And the fat of fed beasts;
And I delight not in the blood
Of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he-goats.
12 When ye come to appear before Me,
Who hath required this at your hand,
To trample My courts?
13 Bring no more vain oblations;
It is an offering of abomination unto Me;
New moon and sabbath, the holding of convocations—
I cannot endure iniquity along with the solemn assembly.

14 Your new moons and your appointed seasons
My soul hateth;
They are a burden unto Me;
I am weary to bear them.
15 And when ye spread forth your hands,
I will hide Mine eyes from you;
Yea, when ye make many prayers,
I will not hear;
Your hands are full of blood.
16 Wash you, make you clean,
Put away the evil of your doings
From before Mine eyes,
Cease to do evil;
17 Learn to do well;
Seek justice, relieve the oppressed
Judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together,
Saith the LORD;
Though your sins be as scarlet,
They shall be as white as snow;
Though they be red like crimson,
They shall be as wool.
19 If ye be willing and obedient,
Ye shall eat the good of the land;
20 But if ye refuse and rebel,
Ye shall be devoured with the sword;
For the mouth of the LORD hath spoken.

21 How is the faithful city
Become a harlot!
She that was full of justice,
Righteousness lodged in her,
But now murderers.
22 Thy silver is become dross,

Thy wine mixed with water.
23 Thy princes are rebellious,
And companions of thieves;
Every one loveth bribes,
And followeth after rewards;
They judge not the fatherless,
Neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them.

24 Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts,
The Mighty One of Israel:
Ah, I will ease Me of Mine adversaries,
And avenge Me of Mine enemies;
25 And I will turn My hand upon thee,
And purge away thy dross as with lye,
And will take away all thine alloy;
26 And I will restore thy judges as at the first,
And thy counsellors as at the beginning;
Afterward thou shalt be called The city of righteousness,
The faithful city.
27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice,
And they that return of her with righteousness.
28 But the destruction of the transgressors and the sinners shall be together,
And they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.
29 For they shall be ashamed of the terebinths which ye have desired,
And ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.
30 For ye shall be as a terebinth whose leaf fadeth,
And as a garden that hath no water.

31 And the strong shall be as tow,
And his work as a spark;
And they shall both burn together,
And none shall quench them.

A Vision of the Future

2 2 And it shall come to pass in the end of days,
That the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the top of the mountains,
And shall be exalted above the hills;
And all nations shall flow unto it.
3 And many peoples shall go and say:
'Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
To the house of the God of Jacob;
And He will teach us of His ways,
And we will walk in His paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
4 And He shall judge between the nations,
And shall decide for many peoples;
And they shall beat their swords into plow shares,
And their spears into pruning-hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk
In the light of the LORD.
6 For Thou hast forsaken Thy people the house of Jacob;
For they are replenished from the east,
And with soothsayers like the Philistines,

And they please themselves in the brood of aliens.
7 Their land also is full of silver and gold,
Neither is there any end of their treasures;
Their land also is full of horses,
Neither is there any end of their chariots.
8 Their land also is full of idols;
Every one worshippeth the work of his own hands,
That which his own fingers have made.
9 And man boweth down,
And man lowereth himself;
And Thou canst not bear with them.
10 Enter into the rock,
And hide thee in the dust,
From before the terror of the LORD,
And from the glory of His majesty.
11 The lofty looks of man shall be brought low,
And the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down,
And the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

12 For the LORD of hosts hath a day
Upon all that is proud and lofty,
And upon all that is lifted up, and it shall be brought low;
13 And upon all the cedars of Lebanon
That are high and lifted up,
And upon all the oaks of Bashan;
14 And upon all the high mountains,
And upon all the hills that are lifted up;
15 And upon every lofty tower,
And upon every fortified wall;
16 And upon all the ships of Tarshish,

And upon all delightful imagery.
17 And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down,
And the haughtiness of men shall be brought low;
And the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

18 And the idols shall utterly pass away.
19 And men shall go into the caves of the rocks,
And into the holes of the earth,
From before the terror of the LORD,
And from the glory of His majesty,
When He ariseth to shake mightily the earth.
20 In that day a man shall cast away
His idols of silver, and his idols of gold,
Which they made for themselves to worship,
To the moles and to the bats;
21 To go into the clefts of the rocks,
And into the crevices of the crags,
From before the terror of the LORD,
And from the glory of His majesty,
When He ariseth to shake mightily the earth.

22 Cease ye from man, in whose nostrils is a breath;
For how little is he to be accounted!

Parable of the Vineyard

5 Let me sing of my well-beloved,
A song of my beloved touching his vineyard.
My well-beloved had a vineyard
In a very fruitful hill;
2 And he digged it, and cleared it of stones,

And planted it with the choicest vine,
And built a tower in the midst of it,
And also hewed out a vat therein;
And he looked that it should bring forth grapes,
And it brought forth wild grapes.

3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
Judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.
4 What could have been done more to my vineyard,
That I have not done in it?
Wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes,
Brought it forth wild grapes?

5 And now come, I will tell you
What I will do to my vineyard:
I will take away the hedge thereof,
And it shall be eaten up;
I will break down the fence thereof,
And it shall be trodden down;
6 And I will lay it waste:
It shall not be pruned nor hoed,
But there shall come up briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
That they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,
And the men of Judah the plant of His delight;

And He looked for justice, but behold violence;
For righteousness, but behold a cry.

8 Woe unto them that join house to house,
That lay field to field,
Till there be no room, and ye be made to dwell
Alone in the midst of the land!
9 In mine ears said the LORD of hosts:
Of a truth many houses shall be desolate,
Even great and fair, without inhabitant.
10 For ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath,
And the seed of a homer shall yield an ephah.

11 Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning,
That they may follow strong drink;
That tarry late into the night,
Till wine inflame them!
12 And the harp and the psaltery, the tabret and the pipe,
And wine, are in their feasts;
But they regard not the work of the LORD,
Neither have they considered the operation of His hands.
13 Therefore My people are gone into captivity,
For want of knowledge;
And their honourable men are famished,
And their multitude are parched with thirst.
14 Therefore the nether-world hath enlarged her desire,
And opened her mouth without measure;

And down goeth their glory, and their tumult, and their uproar,
And he that rejoiceth among them.
15 And man is bowed down,
And man is humbled,
And the eyes of the lofty are humbled;
16 But the LORD of hosts is exalted through justice,
And God the Holy One is sanctified through righteousness.
17 Then shall the lambs feed as in their pasture,
And the waste places of the fat ones shall wanderers eat.

18 Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity,
And sin as it were with a cart rope,
19 That say: 'Let Him make speed, let Him hasten His work,
That we may see it;
And let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come,
That we may know it!'

20 Woe unto them that call evil good,
And good evil;
That change darkness into light,
And light into darkness;
That change bitter into sweet,
And sweet into bitter!

21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes,
And prudent in their own sight!

22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine,
And men of strength to mingle strong drink;
23 That justify the wicked for a reward,
And take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!
24 Therefore as the tongue of fire devoureth the stubble,
And as the chaff is consumed in the flame,
So their root shall be as rottenness,
And their blossom shall go up as dust;
Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts,
And contemned the word of the Holy One of Israel

25 Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against His people,
And He hath stretched forth His hand against them, and hath smitten them,
And the hills did tremble,
And their carcasses were as refuse in the midst of the streets.
For all this His anger is not turned away,
But His hand is stretched out still.

26 And He will lift up an ensign to the nations from far,
And will hiss unto them from the end of the earth;
And, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly;
27 None shall be weary nor stumble among them;

None shall slumber nor sleep;
Neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed,
Nor the latchet of their shoes be broken;
28 Whose arrows are sharp,
And all their bows bent;
Their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint,
And their wheels like a whirlwind;
29 Their roaring shall be like a lion,
They shall roar like young lions, yea, they shall roar,
And lay hold of the prey, and carry it away safe,
And there shall be none to deliver.
30 And they shall roar against them in that day
Like the roaring of the sea;
And if one look unto the land,
Behold darkness and distress,
And the light is darkened in the skies thereof.

A Prophet Is Called

6 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple. 2 Above Him stood the seraphim; each one had six wings. with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. 3 And one called unto another, and said:

Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts;
The whole earth is full of His glory.

4 And the posts of the door were moved at the
voice of them that called, and the house was
filled with smoke. 5 Then said I:
Woe is me! for I am undone;
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I dwell in the midst of a people of
unclean lips;
For mine eyes have seen the King,
The LORD of hosts.
6 Then flew unto me one of the seraphim, with
a glowing stone in his hand, which he had taken
with the tongs from off the altar; 7 and he
touched my mouth with it, and said:
Lo, this hath touched thy lips;
And thine iniquity is taken away,
And thy sin expiated.
8 And I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:
Whom shall I send,
And who will go for us?
Then I said: 'Here am I; send me.' 9 And He
said: 'Go, and tell this people:
Hear ye indeed, but understand not;
And see ye indeed, but perceive not.
10 Make the heart of this people fat.
And make their ears heavy,
And shut their eyes;
Lest they, seeing with their eyes,
And hearing with their ears,
And understanding with their heart,
Return, and be healed.'
11 Then said I: 'Lord, how long?' And He an-
swered:
'Until cities be waste without inhabitant,
And houses without man,
And the land become utterly waste,

12 And the LORD have removed men far away,
And the forsaken places be many in the midst of the land.
13 And if there be yet a tenth in it, it shall again be eaten up; as a terebinth, and as an oak, whose stock remaineth, when they cast their leaves, so the holy seed shall be the stock thereof.'

The Assyrian Invasion

10 Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees,
And to the writers that write iniquity;
2 To turn aside the needy from judgment,
And to take away the right of the poor of My people,
That widows may be their spoil,
And that they may make the fatherless their prey!
3 And what will ye do in the day of visitation,
And in the ruin which shall come from far?
To whom will ye flee for help?
And where will ye leave your glory?
4 They can do nought except crouch under the captives,
And fall under the slain.
For all this His anger is not turned away,
But His hand is stretched out still.

5 O Asshur, the rod of Mine anger,
In whose hand as a staff is Mine indignation!
6 I do send him against an ungodly nation,
And against the people of My wrath do I give him a charge,

To take the spoil, and to take the prey,
And to tread them down like the mire of the streets.
7 Howbeit he meaneth not so,
Neither doth his heart think so;
But it is in his heart to destroy,
And to cut off nations not a few.
8 For he saith:
'Are not my princes all of them kings?
9 Is not Calno as Carchemish?
Is not Hamath as Arpad?
Is not Samaria as Damascus?
10 As my hand hath reached the kingdoms of the idols,
Whose graven images did exceed them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;
11 Shall I not, as I have done unto Samaria and her idols,
So do to Jerusalem and her idols?'
12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed His whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks.
13 For he hath said:
By the strength of my hand I have done it,
And by my wisdom, for I am prudent;
In that I have removed the bounds of the peoples,
And have robbed their treasures,
And have brought down as one mighty the inhabitants;
14 And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the peoples;
And as one gathereth eggs that are forsaken,

Have I gathered all the earth;
And there was none that moved the wing,
Or that opened the mouth, or chirped.

15 Should the axe boast itself against him that
heweth therewith?
Should the saw magnify itself against him
that moveth it?
As if a rod should move them that lift it up,
Or as if a staff should lift up him that is not
wood.
16 Therefore will the Lord, the LORD of hosts,
Send among his fat ones leanness;
And under his glory there shall be kindled
A burning like the burning of fire.
17 And the light of Israel shall be for a fire,
And his Holy One for a flame;
And it shall burn and devour his thorns
And his briers in one day.
18 And the glory of his forest and of his fruit-
ful field,
He will consume both soul and body;
And it shall be as when a sick man wasteth
away.
19 And the remnant of the trees of his forest
shall be few,
That a child may write them down.

20 And it shall come to pass in that day,
That the remnant of Israel,
And they that are escaped of the house of
Jacob,
Shall no more again stay upon him that
smote them;
But shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One
of Israel, in truth.

21 A remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob,
Unto God the Mighty.
22 For though thy people, O Israel, be as the sand of the sea,
Only a remnant of them shall return;
An extermination is determined, overflowing with righteousness.
23 For an extermination wholly determined
Shall the Lord, the GOD of hosts, make in the midst of all the earth.

24 Therefore thus saith the Lord, the GOD of hosts: O My people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of Asshur, though he smite thee with the rod, and lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt. 25 For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall be accomplished, and Mine anger shall be to their destruction. 26 And the LORD of hosts shall stir up against him a scourge, as in the slaughter of Midian at the Rock of Oreb; and as His rod was over the sea, so shall He lift it up after the manner of Egypt. 27 And it shall come to pass in that day, that
His burden shall depart from off thy shoulder,
And his yoke from off thy neck,
And the yoke shall be destroyed by reason of fatness.
28 He is come to Aiath,
He is passed through Migron;
At Michmas he layeth up his baggage;
29 They are gone over the pass;
They have taken up their lodging at Geba;

Ramah trembleth;
Gibeath-shaul is fled.
30 Cry thou with a shrill voice, O daughter of Gallim!
Hearken, O Laish! O thou poor Anathoth!
31 Madmenah is in mad flight;
The inhabitants of Gebim flee to cover.
32 This very day shall he halt at Nob,
Shaking his hand at the mount of the daughter of Zion,
The hill of Jerusalem.

33 Behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts,
Shall lop the boughs with terror;
And the high ones of stature shall be hewn down,
And the lofty shall be laid low.
34 And He shall cut down the thickets of the forest with iron,
And Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one.

The Messianic Age

11 And there shall come forth a shoot out of the stock of Jesse,
And a twig shall grow forth out of his roots.
2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and might,
The spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD;
And he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,

Neither decide after the hearing of his ears;
4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor,
And decide with equity for the meek of the land;
And he shall smite the land with the rod of his mouth,
And with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.
5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,
And faithfulness the girdle of his reins.
6 And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
And the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
And a little child shall lead them.
7 And the cow and the bear shall feed;
Their young ones shall lie down together;
And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp,
And the weaned child shall put his hand on the basilisk's den.
9 They shall not hurt nor destroy
In all My holy mountain;
For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD,
As the waters cover the sea.

10 And it shall come to pass in that day,
That the root of Jesse, that standeth for an ensign of the peoples,

Unto him shall the nations seek;
And his resting-place shall be glorious.

11 And it shall come to pass in that day,
That the Lord will set His hand again the second time
To recover the remnant of His people,
That shall remain from Assyria, and from Egypt,
And from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam,
And from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.
12 And He will set up an ensign for the nations,
And will assemble the dispersed of Israel,
And gather together the scattered of Judah
From the four corners of the earth.
13 The envy also of Ephraim shall depart,
And they that harass Judah shall be cut off;
Ephraim shall not envy Judah,
And Judah shall not vex Ephraim.
14 And they shall fly down upon the shoulder of the Philistines on the west;
Together shall they spoil the children of the east;
They shall put forth their hand upon Edom and Moab;
And the children of Ammon shall obey them.
15 And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea;
And with His scorching wind will He shake His hand over the River,
And will smite it into seven streams,
And cause men to march over dry-shod.

16 And there shall be a highway for the remnant of His people,
That shall remain from Assyria;
Like as there was for Israel
In the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

12 And in that day thou shalt say:
'I will give thanks unto Thee, O LORD;
For though Thou wast angry with me,
Thine anger is turned away, and Thou comfortest me.
2 Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
For GOD the LORD is my strength and song;
And He is become my salvation.'
3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water
Out of the wells of salvation.
4 And in that day shall ye say:
'Give thanks unto the LORD, proclaim His name,
Declare His doings among the peoples,
Make mention that His name is exalted.
5 Sing unto the LORD; for He hath done gloriously;
This is made known in all the earth.
6 Cry aloud and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion;
For great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of these.'

A Prayer

25 O LORD, Thou art my God,
I will exalt Thee, I will praise Thy name,

For Thou hast done wonderful things;
Even counsels of old, in faithfulness and truth.
2 For Thou hast made of a city a heap,
Of a fortified city a ruin;
A castle of strangers to be no city,
It shall never be built.
3 Therefore shall the strong people glorify Thee,
The city of the terrible nations shall fear Thee.
4 For Thou hast been a stronghold to the poor,
A stronghold to the needy in his distress,
A refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat;
For the blast of the terrible ones was as a storm against the wall.
5 As the heat in a dry place, Thou didst subdue the noise of strangers;
As the heat by the shadow of a cloud, the song of the terrible ones was brought low.

6 And in this mountain will the LORD of hosts make unto all peoples
A feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees,
Of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.
7 And He will destroy in this mountain
The face of the covering that is cast over all peoples,
And the veil that is spread over all nations.
8 He will swallow up death for ever;

And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from
off all faces;
And the reproach of His people will He take
away from off all the earth;
For the LORD hath spoken it.

9 And it shall be said in that day:
'Lo, this is our God,
For whom we waited, that He might save us;
This is the LORD, for whom we waited,
We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.'
10 For in this mountain will the hand of the
LORD rest,
And Moab shall be trodden down in his
place,
Even as straw is trodden down in the dung-
hill.
11 And when he shall spread forth his hands in
the midst thereof,
As he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his
hands to swim,
His pride shall be brought down together
with the cunning of his hands.
12 And the high fortress of thy walls will He
bring down, lay low,
And bring to the ground, even to the dust.

Woe to Oppressors

33 Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast
not spoiled;
And dealest treacherously, and they dealt
not treacherously with thee!
When thou hast ceased to spoil, thou shalt
be spoiled;

And when thou art weary with dealing treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee.

2 O LORD, be gracious unto us;
We have waited for Thee;
Be Thou their arm every morning,
Our salvation also in the time of trouble.
3 At the noise of the tumult the peoples are fled;
At the lifting up of Thyself the nations are scattered.
4 And your spoil is gathered as the caterpillar gathereth;
As locusts leap do they leap upon it.
5 The LORD is exalted, for He dwelleth on high;
He hath filled Zion with justice and righteousness.
6 And the stability of thy times shall be
A hoard of salvation—wisdom and knowledge,
And the fear of the LORD which is His treasure.

The Great Restoration

35 The wilderness and the parched land shall be glad;
And the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.
2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice,
Even with joy and singing;
The glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,
The excellency of Carmel and Sharon;

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
The excellency of our God.
3 Strengthen ye the weak hands,
And make firm the tottering knees.
4 Say to them that are of a fearful heart: 'Be strong, fear not';
Behold, your God will come with vengeance,
With the recompense of God He will come and save you.

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
6 Then shall the lame man leap as a hart,
And the tongue of the dumb shall sing;
For in the wilderness shall waters break out,
And streams in the desert.
7 And the parched land shall become a pool,
And the thirsty ground springs of water;
In the habitation of jackals herds shall lie down,
It shall be an enclosure for reeds and rushes.
8 And a highway shall be there, and a way,
And it shall be called The way of holiness;
The unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those;
The wayfaring men, yea fools, shall not err therein.
9 No lion shall be there,
Nor shall any ravenous beast go up thereon,
They shall not be found there;
But the redeemed shall walk there:
10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
And come with singing unto Zion,
And everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

They shall obtain gladness and joy,
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Comfort for Israel

40 Comfort ye, comfort ye My people,
Saith your God.
2 Bid Jerusalem take heart,
And proclaim unto her,
That her time of service is accomplished,
That her guilt is paid off;
That she hath received of the LORD's hand
Double for all her sins.

3 Hark! one calleth:
'Clear ye in the wilderness the way of the LORD,
Make plain in the desert
A highway for our God.
4 Every valley shall be lifted up,
And every mountain and hill shall be made low;
And the rugged shall be made level,
And the rough places a plain;
5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together;
For the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.'

6 Hark! one saith: 'Proclaim!'
And he saith: 'What shall I proclaim?'
'All flesh is grass,
And all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field;
7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth;

Because the breath of the LORD bloweth
upon it—
Surely the people is grass.
8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth;
But the word of our God shall stand for
ever.'

9 O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
Get thee up into the high mountain;
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jeru-
salem,
Lift up thy voice with strength;
Lift it up, be not afraid;
Say unto the cities of Judah:
'Behold your God!'
10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come as a Mighty
One,
And His arm will rule for Him;
Behold, His reward is with Him,
And His recompense before Him.
11 Even as a shepherd that feedeth his flock,
That gathereth the lambs in his arm,
And carrieth them in his bosom,
And gently leadeth those that give suck.

12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow
of his hand,
And meted out heaven with the span,
And comprehended the dust of the earth in
a measure,
And weighed the mountains in scales,
And the hills in a balance?
13 Who hath meted out the spirit of the LORD?
Or who was His counsellor that he might
instruct Him?

14 With whom took He counsel, and who instructed Him,
And taught Him in the path of right,
And taught Him knowledge,
And made Him to know the way of discernment?
15 Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket,
And are counted as the small dust of the balance;
Behold, the isles are as a mote in weight.
16 And Lebanon is not sufficient fuel,
Nor the beasts thereof sufficient for burnt-offerings.
17 All the nations are as nothing before Him;
They are accounted by Him as things of nought, and vanity.
18 To whom then will ye liken God?
Or what likeness will ye compare unto Him?
19 The image perchance, which the craftsman hath melted,
And the goldsmith spread over with gold,
The silversmith casting silver chains?
20 A holm-oak is set apart,
He chooseth a tree that will not rot;
He seeketh unto him a cunning craftsman
To set up an image, that shall not be moved.

21 Know ye not? hear ye not?
Hath it not been told you from the beginning?
Have ye not understood the foundations of the earth?
22 It is He that sitteth above the circle of the earth,

And the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers;
That stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain,
And spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in;
23 That bringeth princes to nothing;
He maketh the judges of the earth as a thing of nought.
24 Scarce are they planted,
Scarce are they sown,
Scarce hath their stock taken root in the earth;
When He bloweth upon them, they wither,
And the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble.
25 To whom then will ye liken Me, that I should be equal?
Saith the Holy One.
26 Lift up your eyes on high,
And see: who hath created these?
He that bringeth out their host by number,
He calleth them all by name;
By the greatness of His might, and for that He is strong in power,
Not one faileth.

27 Why sayest thou, O Jacob,
And speakest, O Israel:
'My way is hid from the LORD,
And my right is passed over from my God'?
28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard
That the everlasting God, the LORD,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Fainteth not, neither is weary?
His discernment is past searching out.

29 He giveth power to the faint;
And to him that hath no might He increaseth strength.
30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
And the young men shall utterly fall;
31 But they that wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings as eagles;
They shall run, and not be weary;
They shall walk, and not faint.

The Servant of God

41 8 But thou, Israel, My servant,
Jacob whom I have chosen,
The seed of Abraham My friend;
9 Thou whom I have taken hold of from the ends of the earth,
And called thee from the uttermost parts thereof,
And said unto thee: 'Thou art My servant,
I have chosen thee and not cast thee away';
10 Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
Be not dismayed, for I am thy God;
I strengthen thee, yea, I help thee;
Yea, I uphold thee with My victorious right hand.
11 Behold, all they that were incensed against thee
Shall be ashamed and confounded;
They that strove with thee
Shall be as nothing, and shall perish.
12 Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them,
Even them that contended with thee;

They that warred against thee
Shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought.
13 For I the LORD thy God
Hold thy right hand,
Who say unto thee: 'Fear not,
I help thee.'

14 Fear not, thou worm Jacob,
And ye men of Israel;
I help thee, saith the LORD,
And thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.
15 Behold, I make thee a new threshing-sledge
Having sharp teeth;
Thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small,
And shalt make the hills as chaff.
16 Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away,
And the whirlwind shall scatter them;
And thou shalt rejoice in the LORD,
Thou shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.

17 The poor and needy seek water and there is none,
And their tongue faileth for thirst;
I the LORD will answer them,
I the God of Israel will not forsake them.
18 I will open rivers on the high hills,
And fountains in the midst of the valleys;
I will make the wilderness a pool of water,
And the dry land springs of water.
19 I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia-tree,
And the myrtle, and the oil-tree;

I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane-
tree, and the larch together;
20 That they may see, and know,
And consider, and understand together,
That the hand of the LORD hath done this,
And the Holy One of Israel hath created it.

42 Behold My servant, whom I uphold;
Mine elect, in whom My soul delighteth;
I have put My spirit upon him,
He shall make the right to go forth to the
nations.
2 He shall not cry, nor lift up,
Nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.
3 A bruised reed shall he not break,
And the dimly burning wick shall he not
quench;
He shall make the right to go forth accord-
ing to the truth.
4 He shall not fail nor be crushed,
Till he have set the right in the earth;
And the isles shall wait for his teaching.

5 Thus saith God the LORD,
He that created the heavens, and stretched
them forth,
He that spread forth the earth and that
which cometh out of it,
He that giveth breath unto the people upon it,
And spirit to them that walk therein:
6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness,
And have taken hold of thy hand,
And kept thee, and set thee for a covenant of
the people,
For a light of the nations;

7 To open the blind eyes,
To bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
And them that sit in darkness out of the prison-house.
8 I am the LORD, that is My name;
And My glory will I not give to another,
Neither My praise to graven images.
9 Behold, the former things are come to pass,
And new things do I declare;
Before they spring forth I tell you of them.
10 Sing unto the LORD a new song,
And His praise from the end of the earth;
Ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein,
The isles, and the inhabitants thereof.
11 Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice,
The villages that Kedar doth inhabit;
Let the inhabitants of Sela exult,
Let them shout from the top of the mountains.
12 Let them give glory unto the LORD,
And declare His praise in the islands.
13 The LORD will go forth as a mighty man,
He will stir up jealousy like a man of war;
He will cry, yea, He will shout aloud,
He will prove Himself mighty against His enemies.

14 I have long time held My peace,
I have been still, and refrained Myself;
Now will I cry like a travailing woman,
Gasping and panting at once.
15 I will make waste mountains and hills,
And dry up all their herbs;

And I will make the rivers islands,
And will dry up the pools.
16 And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not,
In paths that they knew not will I lead them;
I will make darkness light before them,
And rugged places plain.
These things will I do,
And I will not leave them undone.

God's Word Will Be Fulfilled

55 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye for water,
And he that hath no money;
Come ye, buy, and eat;
Yea, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.
2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?
And your gain for that which satisfieth not?
Hearken diligently unto Me, and eat ye that which is good,
And let your soul delight itself in fatness.
3 Incline your ear, and come unto Me;
Hear, and your soul shall live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
Even the sure mercies of David.
4 Behold, I have given him for a witness to the peoples,
A prince and commander to the peoples.
5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not,

And a nation that knew not thee shall run
unto thee;
Because of the LORD thy God,
And for the Holy One of Israel, for He hath
glorified thee.

6 Seek ye the LORD while He may be found,
Call ye upon Him while He is near;
7 Let the wicked forsake his way,
And the man of iniquity his thoughts;
And let him return unto the LORD, and He
will have compassion upon him,
And to our God, for He will abundantly
pardon.
8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Neither are your ways My ways, saith the
LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts.
10 For as the rain cometh down and the snow
from heaven,
And returneth not thither,
Except it water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
And give seed to the sower and bread to the
eater;
11 So shall My word be that goeth forth out of
My mouth:
It shall not return unto Me void,
Except it accomplish that which I please,
And make the thing whereto I sent it prosper.
12 For ye shall go out with joy,
And be led forth with peace;

The mountains and the hills shall break forth
before you into singing,
And all the trees of the field shall clap their
hands.
13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the
cypress,
And instead of the brier shall come up the
myrtle;
And it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
For an everlasting sign that shall not be
cut off.

The Meaning of a Fast Day

58 Cry aloud, spare not,
Lift up thy voice like a horn,
And declare unto My people their trans-
gression,
And to the house of Jacob their sins.
2 Yet they seek Me daily,
And delight to know My ways;
As a nation that did righteousness,
And forsook not the ordinance of their God,
They ask of Me righteous ordinances,
They delight to draw near unto God.

3 'Wherefore have we fasted, and Thou seest
not?
Wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and
Thou takest no knowledge?'—
Behold, in the day of your fast ye pursue
your business,
And exact all your labours.
4 Behold, ye fast for strife and contention,
And to smite with the fist of wickedness;

Ye fast not this day
So as to make your voice to be heard on high.
5 Is such the fast that I have chosen?
The day for a man to afflict his soul?
Is it to bow down his head as a bulrush,
And to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
Wilt thou call this a fast,
And an acceptable day to the LORD?
6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen?
To loose the fetters of wickedness,
To undo the bands of the yoke,
And to let the oppressed go free,
And that ye break every yoke?
7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry,
And that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house?
When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him,
And that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?
8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning,
And thy healing shall spring forth speedily;
And thy righteousness shall go before thee,
The glory of the LORD shall be thy rearward.
9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD will answer;
Thou shalt cry, and He will say: 'Here I am.'
If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke,
The putting forth of the finger, and speaking wickedness;
10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry,

And satisfy the afflicted soul;
Then shall thy light rise in darkness,
And thy gloom be as the noon-day;
11 And the LORD will guide thee continually,
And satisfy thy soul in drought,
And make strong thy bones;
And thou shalt be like a watered garden,
And like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.
12 And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places,
Thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations;
And thou shalt be called The repairer of the breach,
The restorer of paths to dwell in.
13 If thou turn away thy foot because of the sabbath,
From pursuing thy business on My holy day;
And call the sabbath a delight,
And the holy of the LORD honourable;
And shalt honour it, not doing thy wonted ways,
Nor pursuing thy business, nor speaking thereof;
14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD,
And I will make thee to ride upon the high places of the earth,
And I will feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father;
For the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Message of Good Tidings

61 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me:
Because the LORD hath anointed me
To bring good tidings unto the humble;
He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the eyes to them that are bound;
2 To proclaim the year of the LORD's good pleasure,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all that mourn;
3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion,
To give unto them a garland for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The mantle of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they might be called terebinths of righteousness,
The planting of the LORD, wherein He might glory.
4 And they shall build the old wastes,
They shall raise up the former desolations,
And they shall renew the waste cities,
The desolations of many generations.
5 And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,
And aliens shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.
6 But ye shall be named the priests of the LORD,
Men shall call you the ministers of our God;
Ye shall eat the wealth of the nations,

And in their splendour shall ye revel.
7 For your shame which was double,
And for that they rejoiced: 'Confusion is their portion';
Therefore in their land they shall possess double,
Everlasting joy shall be unto them.

8 For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery with iniquity;
And I will give them their recompense in truth,
And I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
9 And their seed shall be known among the nations,
And their offspring among the peoples;
All that see them shall acknowledge them,
That they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
My soul shall be joyful in my God;
For He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He hath covered me with the robe of victory,
As a bridegroom putteth on a priestly diadem,
And as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.
11 For as the earth bringeth forth her growth,
And as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth;
So the Lord GOD will cause victory and glory
To spring forth before all the nations.

JEREMIAH

The Call of Jeremiah

1 THE words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah,
of the priests that were in Anathoth in the
land of Benjamin, 2 to whom the word of the
LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of
Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of
his reign. 3 It came also in the days of Jehoi-
akim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, unto the
end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of
Josiah, king of Judah, unto the carrying away
of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

4 And the word of the LORD came unto me,
saying:

5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew
thee,
And before thou camest forth out of the
womb I sanctified thee;
I have appointed thee a prophet unto the
nations.

6 Then said I: 'Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot
speak; for I am a child.' 7 But the LORD said
unto me:

Say not: I am a child;
For to whomsoever I shall send thee thou
shalt go,
And whatsoever I shall command thee thou
shalt speak.

8 Be not afraid of them;
For I am with thee to deliver thee,
Saith the LORD.

9 Then the LORD put forth His hand, and
touched my mouth; and the LORD said unto me:

Behold, I have put My words in thy mouth;
10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations
and over the kingdoms,
To root out and to pull down,
And to destroy and to overthrow;
To build, and to plant.

11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying: 'Jeremiah, what seest thou?' And I said: 'I see a rod of an almond-tree.' 12 Then said the LORD unto me: 'Thou hast well seen; for I watch over My word to perform it.'

13 And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying: 'What seest thou?' And I said: 'I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is from the north.' 14 Then the LORD said unto me: 'Out of the north the evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. 15 For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah. 16 And I will utter My judgments against them touching all their wickedness; in that they have forsaken Me, and have offered unto other gods, and worshipped the work of their own hands. 17 Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee; be not dismayed at them, lest I dismay thee before them. 18 For, behold, I have made thee this day a fortified city, and an iron pillar, and brazen walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof,

and against the people of the land. 19 And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.'

Moral Corruption and Its Results

9 Oh that I were in the wilderness,
In a lodging-place of wayfaring men,
That I might leave my people,
And go from them!
For they are all adulterers,
An assembly of treacherous men.
2 And they bend their tongue, their bow of falsehood;
And they are grown mighty in the land, but not for truth;
For they proceed from evil to evil,
And Me they know not,
Saith the LORD.
3 Take ye heed every one of his neighbour,
And trust ye not in any brother;
For every brother acteth subtly,
And every neighbour goeth about with slanders.
4 And they deceive every one his neighbour,
And truth they speak not;
They have taught their tongue to speak lies,
They weary themselves to commit iniquity.
5 Thy habitation is in the midst of deceit;
Through deceit they refuse to know Me,
Saith the LORD.

6 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts:
Behold, I will smelt them, and try them;

For how else should I do,
Because of the daughter of My people?
7 Their tongue is a sharpened arrow,
It speaketh deceit;
One speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth,
But in his heart he layeth wait for him.
8 Shall I not punish them for these things?
Saith the LORD;
Shall not My soul be avenged
On such a nation as this?

9 For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing,
And for the pastures of the wilderness a lamentation,
Because they are burned up, so that none passeth through.
And they hear not the voice of the cattle;
Both the fowl of the heavens and the beast
Are fled, and gone.
10 And I will make Jerusalem heaps,
A lair of jackals;
And I will make the cities of Judah a desolation,
Without an inhabitant.

11 Who is the wise man, that he may understand this?
And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it?
Wherefore is the land perished
And laid waste like a wilderness, so that none passeth through?
12 And the LORD saith:

Because they have forsaken My law which I
set before them.
And have not hearkened to My voice, nei-
ther walked therein;
13 But have walked after the stubbornness of
their own heart,
And after the Baalim, which their fathers
taught them.
14 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the
God of Israel:
Behold, I will feed them, even this people,
with wormwood,
And give them water of gall to drink.
15 I will scatter them also among the nations,
Whom neither they nor their fathers have
known;
And I will send the sword after them,
Till I have consumed them.

God's Nature

22 Thus saith the LORD:
Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,
Neither let the mighty man glory in his
might,
Let not the rich man glory in his riches;
23 But let him that glorieth glory in this,
That he understandeth, and knoweth Me,
That I am the LORD who exercise mercy,
Justice, and righteousness, in the earth;
For in these things I delight,
Saith the LORD.

Do Not Reject Israel

14 19 Hast Thou utterly rejected Judah?
Hath Thy soul loathed Zion?
Why hast Thou smitten us, and there is no
healing for us?
We looked for peace, but no good came;
And for a time of healing, and behold terror!
20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness,
Even the iniquity of our fathers;
For we have sinned against Thee.
21 Do not contemn us, for Thy name's sake,
Do not dishonour the throne of Thy glory;
Remember, break not Thy covenant with us.
22 Are there any among the vanities of the na-
tions that can cause rain?
Or can the heavens give showers?
Art not Thou He, O LORD our God, and do
we not wait for Thee?
For Thou hast made all these things.

Trust In God

17 5 Thus saith the LORD:
Cursed is the man that trusteth in man,
And maketh flesh his arm,
And whose heart departeth from the LORD.
6 For he shall be like a tamarisk in the desert,
And shall not see when good cometh;
But shall inhabit the parched places in the
wilderness,
A salt land and not inhabited.
7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD,
And whose trust the LORD is.

8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the
waters,
And that spreadeth out its roots by the river,
And shall not see when heat cometh,
But its foliage shall be luxuriant;
And shall not be anxious in the year of
drought,
Neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

9 The heart is deceitful above all things,
And it is exceeding weak—who can know it?
10 I the LORD search the heart,
I try the reins,
Even to give every man according to his
ways,
According to the fruit of his doings.

Freedom of Speech

26 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word from the LORD, saying: 2 'Thus saith the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word. 3 It may be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way; that I may repent Me of the evil, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings. 4 And thou shalt say unto them: Thus saith the LORD: If ye will not hearken to Me, to walk in My law, which I have set before you, 5 to hearken to the words of My servants the prophets, whom I send unto you, even sending

them betimes and often, but ye have not hearkened; 6 then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.'

7 So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. 8 Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold on him, saying: 'Thou shalt surely die. 9 Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying: This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without an inhabitant?' And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

10 When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house unto the house of the LORD; and they sat in the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house. 11 Then spoke the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying: 'This man is worthy of death; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears.' 12 Then spoke Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying: 'The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that ye have heard. 13 Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and hearken to the voice of the LORD your God; and the LORD will repent Him of the evil that He hath pronounced against you. 14 But as for me, behold, I am in your hand; do with me as is good and right in your

eyes. 15 Only know ye for certain that, if ye put me to death, ye will bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon the inhabitants thereof; for of a truth the LORD hath sent me unto you to speak all these words in your ears.'

16 Then said the princes and all the people unto the priests and to the prophets: 'This man is not worthy of death; for he hath spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God.' 17 Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying: 18 'Micah the Morashtite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah; and he spoke to all the people of Judah, saying: Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Zion shall be plowed as a field,
And Jerusalem shall become heaps,
And the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.

19 Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? did he not fear the LORD, and entreat the favour of the LORD, and the LORD repented Him of the evil which He had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our own souls.'

20 And there was also a man that prophesied in the name of the LORD, Uriah the son of Shemaiah of Kiriath-jearim; and he prophesied against this city and against this land according to all the words of Jeremiah; 21 and when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men, and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death; but when Uriah heard it, he was afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt; 22 and

Jehoiakim the king sent men into Egypt, Elnathan the son of Achbor, and certain men with him, into Egypt; 23 and they fetched forth Uriah out of Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim the king; who slew him with the sword, and cast his dead body into the graves of the children of the people. 24 Nevertheless the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

Seek the Public Weal

29 Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders of the captivity, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon, 2 after that Jeconiah the king, and the queen-mother, and the officers, and the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the craftsmen, and the smiths, were departed from Jerusalem; 3 by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, saying:

4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all the captivity, whom I have caused to be carried away captive from Jerusalem unto Babylon:

5 Build ye houses, and dwell in them, and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; 6 take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daugh-

ters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply ye there, and be not diminished. 7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray unto the LORD for it; for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

Restoration of Israel

30 23 Behold, a storm of the LORD is gone forth in fury,
A sweeping storm;
It shall whirl upon the head of the wicked.
24 The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return,
Until He have executed, and till He have performed
The purposes of His heart;
In the end of days ye shall consider it.

31 At that time, saith the LORD,
Will I be the God of all the families of Israel,
And they shall be My people.

2 Thus saith the LORD:
The people that were left of the sword
Have found grace in the wilderness,
Even Israel, when I go to cause him to rest.
3 'From afar the LORD appeared unto me.'
'Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love;
Therefore with affection have I drawn thee.
4 Again will I build thee, and thou shalt be built,
O virgin of Israel;

Again shalt thou be adorned with thy tabrets,
And shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.
5 Again shalt thou plant vineyards upon the mountains of Samaria;
The planters shall plant, and shall have the use thereof.
6 For there shall be a day,
That the watchmen shall call upon the mount Ephraim:
Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion,
Unto the LORD our God.'

7 For thus saith the LORD:
Sing with gladness for Jacob,
And shout at the head of the nations;
Announce ye, praise ye, and say:
'O LORD, save Thy people,
The remnant of Israel.'
8 Behold, I will bring them from the north country,
And gather them from the uttermost parts of the earth,
And with them the blind and the lame,
The woman with child and her that travaileth with child together;
A great company shall they return hither.
9 They shall come with weeping,
And with supplications will I lead them;
I will cause them to walk by rivers of waters,
In a straight way wherein they shall not stumble;
For I am become a father to Israel,
And Ephraim is My first-born.

10 Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations,
And declare it in the isles afar off, and say:
'He that scattered Israel doth gather him,
And keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.'
11 For the LORD hath ransomed Jacob,
And He redeemeth him from the hand of
him that is stronger than he.
12 And they shall come and sing in the height
of Zion,
And shall flow unto the goodness of the
LORD,
To the corn, and to the wine, and to the oil,
And to the young of the flock and of the
herd;
And their soul shall be as a watered garden,
And they shall not pine any more at all.
13 Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance,
And the young men and the old together;
For I will turn their mourning into joy,
And will comfort them, and make them re-
joice from their sorrow.
14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with
fatness,
And My people shall be satisfied with My
goodness,
Saith the LORD.

15 Thus saith the LORD:
A voice is heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, and bitter weeping,
Rachel weeping for her children;
She refuseth to be comforted for her children,
Because they are not.

16 Thus saith the LORD:
Refrain thy voice from weeping,

And thine eyes from tears;
For thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD;
And they shall come back from the land of the enemy.
17 And there is hope for thy future, saith the LORD;
And thy children shall return to their own border.
18 I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself:
'Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised,
As a calf untrained;
Turn thou me, and I shall be turned,
For Thou art the LORD my God.
19 Surely after that I was turned, I repented,
And after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh;
I was ashamed, yea, even confounded,
Because I did bear the reproach of my youth.'
20 Is Ephraim a darling son unto Me?
Is he a child that is dandled?
For as often as I speak of him,
I do earnestly remember him still;
Therefore My heart yearneth for him,
I will surely have compassion upon him, saith the LORD.

21 Set thee up waymarks,
Make thee guide-posts;
Set thy heart toward the highway,
Even the way by which thou wentest;
Return, O virgin of Israel,

Return to these thy cities.
22 How long wilt thou turn away coyly,
O thou backsliding daughter?
For the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth:
A woman shall court a man.

23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:
Yet again shall they use this speech
In the land of Judah and in the cities thereof,
When I shall turn their captivity:
'The LORD bless thee, O habitation of righteousness,
O mountain of holiness.'
24 And Judah and all the cities thereof
Shall dwell therein together:
The husbandmen, and they that go forth with flocks.
25 For I have satiated the weary soul,
And every pining soul have I replenished.

26 Upon this I awaked, and beheld;
And my sleep was sweet unto me.

27 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast. 28 And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them to pluck up and to break down, and to overthrow and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them to build and to plant, saith the LORD.
29 In those days they shall say no more:

'The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
And the children's teeth are set on edge.'
30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity;
every man that eateth the sour grapes, his teeth
shall be set on edge.

31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that
I will make a new covenant with the house of
Israel, and with the house of Judah; 32 not ac-
cording to the covenant that I made with their
fathers in the day that I took them by the hand
to bring them out of the land of Egypt; foras-
much as they broke My covenant, although I was
a lord over them, saith the LORD. 33 But this
is the covenant that I will make with the house
of Israel after those days, saith the LORD, I will
put My law in their inward parts, and in their
heart will I write it; and I will be their God,
and they shall be My people; 34 and they shall
teach no more every man his neighbour, and
every man his brother, saying: 'Know the LORD';
for they shall all know Me, from the least of
them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD;
for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin
will I remember no more.

35 Thus saith the LORD,
Who giveth the sun for a light by day,
And the ordinances of the moon and of the
stars for a light by night,
Who stirreth up the sea, that the waves
thereof roar,
The LORD of hosts is His name:
36 If these ordinances depart from before Me,
Saith the LORD,

Then the seed of Israel also shall cease
From being a nation before Me for ever.

37 Thus saith the LORD:
If heaven above can be measured,
And the foundations of the earth searched
out beneath,
Then will I also cast off all the seed of
Israel
For all that they have done, saith the LORD.
38 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananel unto the gate of the corner. 39 And the measuring line shall yet go out straight forward unto the hill Gareb, and shall turn about unto Goah. 40 And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

Faith in the Future

32 6 And Jeremiah said: 'The word of the LORD came unto me, saying: 7 Behold, Hanamel, the son of Shallum thine uncle, shall come unto thee, saying. Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth; for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.' 8 So Hanamel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the guard according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me: 'Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the land of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption

is thine; buy it for thyself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD. 9 And I bought the field that was in Anathoth of Hanamel mine uncle's son, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. 10 And I subscribed the deed, and sealed it, and called witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances. 11 So I took the deed of the purchase, both that which was sealed, containing the terms and conditions, and that which was open; 12 and I delivered the deed of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanamel mine uncle['s son], and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the deed of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the guard. 13 And I charged Baruch before them, saying: 14 'Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, this deed of the purchase, both that which is sealed, and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel; that they may continue many days. 15 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall yet again be bought in this land.'

16 Now after I had delivered the deed of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed unto the LORD, saying: 17 'Ah Lord GOD! behold, Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and by Thy outstretched arm; there is nothing too hard for Thee; 18 who showest mercy unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them; the great the mighty God, the LORD of hosts is His

name; 19 great in counsel, and mighty in work; whose eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men, to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings; 20 who didst set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day, and in Israel and among other men; and madest Thee a name, as at this day; 21 and didst bring forth Thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terror; 22 and gavest them this land, which Thou didst swear to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey; 23 and they came in, and possessed it; but they hearkened not to Thy voice, neither walked in Thy law; they have done nothing of all that Thou commandedst them to do; therefore Thou hast caused all this evil to befall them; 24 behold the mounds, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence; and what Thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, Thou seest it. 25 Yet Thou hast said unto me, O Lord GOD: Buy thee the field for money, and call witnesses; whereas the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.'

EZEKIEL

Personal Responsibility

18 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying: 2 'What mean ye, that ye use this proverb in the land of Israel, saying:

The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
And the children's teeth are set on edge?
3 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. 4 Behold, all souls are Mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is Mine; the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

5 But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right, 6 and hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, neither hath defiled his neighbour's wife, neither hath come near to a woman in her impurity; 7 and hath not wronged any, but hath restored his pledge for a debt, hath taken nought by robbery, hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment; 8 he that hath not given forth upon interest, neither hath taken any increase, that hath withdrawn his hand from iniquity, hath executed true justice between man and man, 9 hath walked in My statutes, and hath kept Mine ordinances, to deal truly; he is just, he shall surely live, saith the Lord GOD.

10 If he beget a son that is a robber, a shedder of blood, and that doeth to a brother any of these things, 11 whereas he himself had not done any of these things, for he hath even eaten upon the mountains, and defiled his neighbour's wife, 12 hath wronged the poor and needy, hath taken by robbery, hath not restored the pledge, and hath lifted up his eyes to the idols, hath committed abomination, 13 hath given forth upon interest, and hath taken increase; shall he then live? he shall not live—he hath done all

these abominations; he shall surely be put to death, his blood shall be upon him.

14 Now, lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father's sins, which he hath done, and considereth, and doeth not such like, 15 that hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, hath not defiled his neighbour's wife, 16 neither hath wronged any, hath not taken aught to pledge, neither hath taken by robbery, but hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment, 17 that hath withdrawn his hand from the poor, that hath not received interest nor increase, hath executed Mine ordinances, hath walked in My statutes; he shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live. 18 As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, committed robbery on his brother, and did that which is not good among his people, behold, he dieth for his iniquity. 19 Yet say ye: Why doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father with him? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all My statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. 20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die; the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father with him, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son with him; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

21 But if the wicked turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all My statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 22 None of

his transgressions that he hath committed shall be remembered against him; for his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. 23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD; and not rather that he should return from his ways, and live?

24 But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? None of his righteous deeds that he hath done shall be remembered; for his trespass that he trespassed, and for his sin that he hath sinned, for them shall he die. 25 Yet ye say: The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel: Is it My way that is not equal? is it not your ways that are unequal? 26 When the righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall die therefor; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. 27 Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. 28 Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 29 Yet saith the house of Israel: The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, is it My ways that are not equal? is it not your ways that are unequal? 30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Return ye, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so shall they not be a stumblingblock of iniquity unto

you. 31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, wherein ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD; wherefore turn yourselves, and live.'

Call to Repentance

33 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying: 2 'Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them: When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man from among them, and set him for their watchman; 3 if, when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the horn, and warn the people; 4 then whosoever heareth the sound of the horn, and taketh not warning, if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head; 5 he heard the sound of the horn, and took not warning, his blood shall be upon him; whereas if he had taken warning, he would have delivered his soul. 6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the horn, and the people be not warned, and the sword do come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

7 So thou, son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore, when thou shalt hear the word at My mouth, warn them from Me. 8 When I say unto the wicked: O wicked man, thou shalt surely die,

and thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way; that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thy hand. 9 Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it, and he turn not from his way; he shall die in his inquity, but thou hast delivered thy soul.

10 Therefore, O thou son of man, say unto the house of Israel: Thus ye speak, saying: Our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we pine away in them; how then can we live? 11 Say unto them: As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?'

Prophecy of the Dry Bones

37 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and the LORD carried me out in a spirit, and set me down in the midst of the valley, and it was full of bones; 2 and He caused me to pass by them round about, and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. 3 And He said unto me: 'Son of man, can these bones live?' And I answered: 'O Lord GOD, Thou knowest.' 4 Then He said unto me: 'Prophesy over these bones, and say unto them: O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD: 5 Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live. 6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put

breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.' 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a commotion, and the bones came together, bone to its bone 8 And I beheld, and, lo, there were sinews upon them, and flesh came up, and skin covered them above; but there was no breath in them. 9 Then said He unto me: 'Prophesy unto the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath. Thus saith the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' 10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great host. 11 Then He said unto me 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say: Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off. 12 Therefore prophesy, and say unto them: Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, O My people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel. 13 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, and caused you to come up out of your graves, O My people 14 And I will put My spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I will place you in your own land; and ye shall know that I the LORD have spoken, and performed it, saith the LORD.'

15 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying: 16 'And thou, son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it. For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions; then

take another stick, and write upon it: For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and of all the house of Israel his companions; 17 and join them for thee one to another into one stick, that they may become one in thy hand. 18 And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying: Wilt thou not tell us what thou meanest by these? 19 say unto them: Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his companions; and I will put them unto him together with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in My hand. 20 And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thy hand before their eyes. 21 And say unto them: Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, whither they are gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land; 22 and I will make them one nation in the land, upon the mountains of Israel, and one king shall be king to them all; and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all; 23 neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwelling-places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them; so shall they be My people, and I will be their God. 24 And My servant David shall be king over them, and they all shall have one shepherd; they shall also walk in Mine ordinances, and observe My statutes, and do them.

25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have
given unto Jacob My servant, wherein your
fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, they,
and their children, and their children's children,
for ever; and David My servant shall be their
prince for ever. 26 Moreover I will make a
covenant of peace with them—it shall be an
everlasting covenant with them; and I will
establish them, and multiply them, and will set
My sanctuary in the midst of them for ever.
27 My dwelling-place also shall be over them;
and I will be their God, and they shall be My
people. 28 And the nations shall know that I
am the LORD that sanctify Israel, when My
sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for
ever.'

HOSEA

A Plea for Repentance

14 2 Return, O Israel, unto the LORD thy
God;
For thou hast stumbled in thine iniquity.
3 Take with you words,
And return unto the LORD;
Say unto Him: 'Forgive all iniquity,
And accept that which is good;
So will we render for bullocks the offering
of our lips.
4 Asshur shall not save us;
We will not ride upon horses;
Neither will we call any more the work of
our hands our gods;
For in Thee the fatherless findeth mercy.'

5 I will heal their backsliding,
I will love them freely;
For Mine anger is turned away from him.
6 I will be as the dew unto Israel;
He shall blossom as the lily,
And cast forth his roots as Lebanon.
7 His branches shall spread,
And his beauty shall be as the olive-tree,
And his fragrance as Lebanon.
8 They that dwell under his shadow shall again
Make corn to grow,
And shall blossom as the vine;
The scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.
9 Ephraim [shall say]:
'What have I to do any more with idols?'
As for Me, I respond and look on him;
I am like a leafy cypress-tree;
From Me is thy fruit found.
10 Whoso is wise, let him understand these things,

Whoso is prudent, let him know them.
For the ways of the LORD are right,
And the just do walk in them;
But transgressors do stumble therein.

JOEL

The Day of the Lord

2 21 Fear not, O land, be glad and rejoice;
For the LORD hath done great things.
22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field;

For the pastures of the wilderness do spring,
For the tree beareth its fruit,
The fig-tree and the vine do yield their strength.
23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice
In the LORD your God;
For He giveth you the former rain in just measure,
And He causeth to come down for you the rain,
The former rain and the latter rain, at the first.
24 And the floors shall be full of corn,
And the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten,
The canker-worm, and the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm,
My great army which I sent among you.
26 And ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
And shall praise the name of the LORD your God,
That hath dealt wondrously with you;
And My people shall never be ashamed.
27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
And that I am the LORD your God, and there is none else;
And My people shall never be ashamed.

3 And it shall come to pass afterward,
That I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh;

And your sons and your daughters shall
prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
Your young men shall see visions;
2 And also upon the servants and upon the
handmaids
In those days will I pour out My spirit.
3 And I will show wonders in the heavens and
in the earth,
Blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.
4 The sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood,
Before the great and terrible day of the
LORD come.
5 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever
shall call on the name of the LORD shall
be delivered;
For in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there
shall be those that escape,
As the LORD hath said,
And among the remnant those whom the
LORD shall call.

AMOS

God's Impartial Justice

1 11 Thus saith the LORD:
For three transgressions of Edom,
Yea, for four, I will not reverse it:
Because he did pursue his brother with the
sword,
And did cast off all pity,
And his anger did tear perpetually,
And he kept his wrath for ever.

12 So will I send a fire upon Teman,
And it shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

13 Thus saith the LORD:
For three transgressions of the children of Ammon,
Yea, for four, I will not reverse it:
Because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead,
That they might enlarge their border.
14 So will I kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah,
And it shall devour the palaces thereof,
With shouting in the day of battle,
With a tempest in the day of the whirlwind;
15 And their king shall go into captivity,
He and his princes together,
Saith the LORD.

2 Thus saith the LORD:
For three transgressions of Moab,
Yea, for four, I will not reverse it:
Because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime.
2 So will I send a fire upon Moab,
And it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth;
And Moab shall die with tumult,
With shouting, and with the sound of the horn;
3 And I will cut off the judge from the midst thereof,
And will slay all the princes thereof with him,
Saith the LORD.

4 Thus saith the LORD:
For three transgressions of Judah,

Yea, for four, I will not reverse it:
Because they have rejected the law of the LORD,
And have not kept His statutes,
And their lies have caused them to err,
After which their fathers did walk.
5 So will I send a fire upon Judah,
And it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

6 Thus saith the LORD:
For three transgressions of Israel,
Yea, for four, I will not reverse it:
Because they sell the righteous for silver,
And the needy for a pair of shoes;
7 That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor,
And turn aside the way of the humble;
And a man and his father go unto the same maid,
To profane My holy name;
8 And they lay themselves down beside every altar
Upon clothes taken in pledge,
And in the house of their God they drink
The wine of them that have been fined.
9 Yet destroyed I the Amorite before them,
Whose height was like the height of the cedars,
And he was strong as the oaks;
Yet I destroyed his fruit from above,
And his roots from beneath.
10 Also I brought you up out of the land of Egypt,
And led you forty years in the wilderness,

To possess the land of the Amorite.
11 And I raised up of your sons for prophets,
And of your young men for Nazirites.
Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel?
Saith the LORD
12 But ye gave the Nazirites wine to drink;
And commanded the prophets, saying:
'Prophesy not.'

Seek Good Not Evil

5 4 For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel:
Seek ye Me, and live;
5 But seek not Beth-el,
Nor enter into Gilgal,
And pass not to Beer-sheba;
For Gilgal shall surely go into captivity,
And Beth-el shall come to nought.
6 Seek the LORD, and live—
Lest He break out like fire in the house of Joseph,
And it devour, and there be none to quench it in Beth-el—
7 Ye who turn justice to wormwood,
And cast righteousness to the ground;
8 Him that maketh the Pleiades and Orion,
And bringeth on the shadow of death in the morning,
And darkeneth the day into night;
That calleth for the waters of the sea,
And poureth them out upon the face of the earth;
The LORD is His name;
9 That causeth destruction to flash upon the strong,

So that destruction cometh upon the fortress.

10 They hate him that reproveth in the gate,
And they abhor him that speaketh uprightly.
11 Therefore, because ye trample upon the poor,
And take from him exactions of wheat;
Ye have built houses of hewn stone,
But ye shall not dwell in them,
Ye have planted pleasant vineyards,
But ye shall not drink the wine thereof.
12 For I know how manifold are your transgressions,
And how mighty are your sins;
Ye that afflict the just, that take a ransom,
And that turn aside the needy in the gate.
13 Therefore the prudent doth keep silence in such a time;
For it is an evil time.

14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live;
And so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, as ye say.
15 Hate the evil, and love the good,
And establish justice in the gate;
It may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
Will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

16 Therefore thus saith the LORD,
The God of hosts, the Lord:
Lamentation shall be in all the broad places,

And they shall say in all the streets: 'Alas! alas!'
And they shall call the husbandman to mourning,
And proclaim lamentation to such as are skilful of wailing.
17 And in all vineyards shall be lamentation;
For I will pass through the midst of thee,
Saith the LORD.

18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD!
Wherefore would ye have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light.
19 As if a man did flee from a lion,
And a bear met him;
And went into the house and leaned his hand on the wall,
And a serpent bit him.
20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light?
Even very dark, and no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your feasts,
And I will take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Yea, though ye offer me burnt-offerings and your meal-offerings,
I will not accept them;
Neither will I regard the peace-offerings of your fat beasts.
23 Take thou away from Me the noise of thy songs;
And let Me not hear the melody of thy psalteries.

24 But let justice well up as waters,
And righteousness as a mighty stream.

OBADIAH

The Faithless Brother

1 The vision of Obadiah.
Thus saith the Lord God concerning Edom:
10 For the violence done to thy brother Jacob
shame shall cover thee,
And thou shalt be cut off for ever.
11 In the day that thou didst stand aloof,
In the day that strangers carried away his
substance,
And foreigners entered into his gates,
And cast lots upon Jerusalem,
Even thou wast as one of them.
12 But thou shouldest not have gazed on the
day of thy brother
In the day of his disaster,
Neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over
the children of Judah
In the day of their destruction;
Neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly
In the day of distress.
13 Thou shouldest not have entered into the
gate of My people
In the day of their calamity;
Yea, thou shouldest not have gazed on their
affliction
In the day of their calamity,
Nor have laid hands on their substance
In the day of their calamity.
14 Neither shouldest thou have stood in the
crossway,

To cut off those of his that escape;
Neither shouldest thou have delivered up
those of his
That did remain in the day of distress.

JONAH

God's Mercy Unlimited

1 Now the word of the LORD came unto
Jonah the son of Amittai, saying: 2 'Arise,
go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim
against it; for their wickedness is come up be-
fore Me.' 3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto
Tarshish from the presence of the LORD; and
he went down to Joppa, and found a ship going
to Tarshish; so he paid the fare thereof, and
went down into it, to go with them unto
Tarshish, from the presence of the LORD.

4 But the LORD hurled a great wind into the
sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the
sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.
5 And the mariners were afraid, and cried every
man unto his god; and they cast forth the
wares that were in the ship into the sea, to
lighten it unto them. But Jonah was gone
down into the innermost parts of the ship; and
he lay, and was fast asleep. 6 So the shipmaster
came to him, and said unto him: 'What meanest
thou that thou sleepest? arise, call upon thy
God, if so be that God will think upon us, that
we perish not.'

7 And they said every one to his fellow:
'Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know
for whose cause this evil is upon us.' So they
cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. 8 Then

said they unto him: 'Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us: what is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?' 9 And he said unto them: 'I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who hath made the sea and the dry land.' 10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him: 'What is this that thou hast done?' For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

11 Then said they unto him: 'What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us?' for the sea grew more and more tempestuous. 12 And he said unto them: 'Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you; for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.' 13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not; for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. 14 Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said: 'We beseech Thee, O LORD, we beseech Thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood; for Thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased Thee.' 15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. 16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly; and they offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

2 And the LORD prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. 2 Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly. 3 And he said:

I called out of mine affliction
Unto the LORD, and He answered me;
Out of the belly of the netherworld cried I,
And Thou heardest my voice.
4 For Thou didst cast me into the depth,
In the heart of the seas,
And the flood was round about me;
All Thy waves and Thy billows
Passed over me.
5 And I said: 'I am cast out
From before Thine eyes';
Yet I will look again
Toward Thy holy temple.
6 The waters compassed me about, even to the soul;
The deep was round about me;
The weeds were wrapped about my head.
7 I went down to the bottoms of the mountains;
The earth with her bars closed upon me for ever;
Yet hast Thou brought up my life from the pit,
O LORD my God.
8 When my soul fainted within me,
I remembered the LORD;
And my prayer came in unto Thee,
Into Thy holy temple.
9 They that regard lying vanities
Forsake their own mercy.
10 But I will sacrifice unto Thee
With the voice of thanksgiving;
That which I have vowed I will pay.
Salvation is of the LORD.

11 And the LORD spoke unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

3 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying. 2 'Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and make unto it the proclamation that I bid thee.' 3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city, of three days' journey. 4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he proclaimed, and said: 'Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.'

5 And the people of Nineveh believed God; and they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. 6 And the tidings reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes 7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying: 'Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing; let them not feed, nor drink water; 8 but let them be covered with sackcloth, both man and beast, and let them cry mightily unto God; yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. 9 Who knoweth whether God will not turn and repent, and turn away from His fierce anger, that we perish not?'

10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, which He said He would do unto them;

4 and He did it not. 1 But it displeased
Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry.
2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said: 'I
pray Thee, O LORD, was not this my saying,
when I was yet in mine own country? There-
fore I fled beforehand unto Tarshish; for I
knew that Thou art a gracious God, and com-
passionate, long-suffering, and abundant in
mercy, and repentest Thee of the evil. 3 There-
fore now, O LORD, take, I beseech Thee, my life
from me; for it is better for me to die than to
live.' 4 And the LORD said: 'Art thou greatly
angry?'

5 Then Jonah went out of the city, and sat
on the east side of the city, and there made
him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow,
till he might see what would become of the
city. 6 And the LORD God prepared a gourd,
and made it to come up over Jonah, that it
might be a shadow over his head, to deliver
him from his evil. So Jonah was exceeding
glad because of the gourd. 7 But God pre-
pared a worm when the morning rose the next
day, and it smote the gourd, that it withered.
8 And it came to pass, when the sun arose,
that God prepared a vehement east wind; and
the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he
fainted, and requested for himself that he might
die, and said: 'It is better for me to die than
to live.' 9 And God said to Jonah: 'Art thou
greatly angry for the gourd?' And he said: 'I
am greatly angry, even unto death.' 10 And
the LORD said: 'Thou hast had pity on the
gourd, for which thou hast not laboured, neither
madest it grow, which came up in a night, and

perished in a night; 11 and should not I have
pity on Nineveh, that great city, wherein are
more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot
discern between their right hand and their left
hand, and also much cattle?'

MICAH

Against False Prophets

3 5 Thus saith the LORD concerning the proph-
ets that make my people to err;
That cry: 'Peace', when their teeth have any
thing to bite;
And whoso putteth not into their mouths,
They even prepare war against him:
6 Therefore it shall be night unto you, that
ye shall have no vision;
And it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall
not divine;
And the sun shall go down upon the
prophets,
And the day shall be black over them.
7 And the seers shall be put to shame, and
the diviners confounded;
Yea, they shall all cover their upper lips;
For there shall be no answer of God.
8 But I truly am full of power by the spirit
of the LORD,
And of justice, and of might,
To declare unto Jacob his transgression,
And to Israel his sin.
9 Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house
of Jacob,
And rulers of the house of Israel,
That abhor justice, and pervert all equity;

10 That build up Zion with blood,
And Jerusalem with iniquity.
11 The heads thereof judge for reward,
And the priests thereof teach for hire,
And the prophets thereof divine for money;
Yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say:
'Is not the LORD in the midst of us?
No evil shall come upon us'?
12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field,
And Jerusalem shall become heaps,
And the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.

Vision of Peace Universal

4 But in the end of days it shall come to pass,
That the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the top of the mountains,
And it shall be exalted above the hills;
And peoples shall flow unto it.
2 And many nations shall go and say:
'Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
And to the house of the God of Jacob;
And He will teach us of His ways,
And we will walk in His paths';
For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
3 And He shall judge between many peoples,
And shall decide concerning mighty nations afar off;
And they shall beat their swords into plowshares,

And their spears into pruning-hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn war any more.
4 But they shall sit every man under his vine
and under his fig-tree;
And none shall make them afraid;
For the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath
spoken.

5 For let all the peoples walk each one in the
name of its god,
But we will walk in the name of the LORD
our God for ever and ever.

6 In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble
her that halteth,
And I will gather her that is driven away,
And her that I have afflicted;
7 And I will make her that halted a remnant,
And her that was cast far off a mighty
nation;
And the LORD shall reign over them in
mount Zion from thenceforth even for
ever.

True Religion

6 Hear ye now what the LORD saith:
Arise, contend thou before the mountains,
And let the hills hear thy voice.
2 Hear, O ye mountains, the LORD's contro-
versy,
And ye enduring rocks, the foundations of
the earth;
For the LORD hath a controversy with His
people,

And He will plead with Israel.
3 O My people, what have I done unto thee?
And wherein have I wearied thee?
Testify against Me.
4 For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt,
And redeemed thee out of the house of bondage,
And I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.
5 O My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab devised,
And what Balaam the son of Beor answered him;
From Shittim unto Gilgal,
That ye may know the righteous acts of the LORD.
6 'Wherewith shall I come before the LORD,
And bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt-offerings,
With calves of a year old?
7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
With ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my first-born for my transgression,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?'
8 It hath been told thee, O man, what is good,
And what the LORD doth require of thee:
Only to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.

The Mercy of God

7 18 Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth the iniquity,
And passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage?
He retaineth not His anger for ever,
Because He delighteth in mercy.
19 He will again have compassion upon us;
He will subdue our iniquities;
And Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.
20 Thou wilt show faithfulness to Jacob, mercy to Abraham,
As Thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

NAHUM

Divine Retribution

1 2 The LORD is a jealous and avenging God,
The LORD avengeth and is full of wrath;
The LORD taketh vengeance on His adversaries,
And He reserveth wrath for His enemies.
3 The LORD is long-suffering, and great in power,
And will by no means clear the guilty;
The LORD, in the whirlwind and in the storm is His way,
And the clouds are the dust of His feet.
4 He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry,
And drieth up all the rivers;

Bashan languisheth, and Carmel,
And the flower of Lebanon languisheth.
5 The mountains quake at Him,
And the hills melt;
And the earth is upheaved at His presence,
Yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.
6 Who can stand before His indignation?
And who can abide in the fierceness of His anger?
His fury is poured out like fire,
And the rocks are broken asunder before Him.
7 The LORD is good,
A stronghold in the day of trouble;
And He knoweth them that take refuge in Him.
8 But with an overrunning flood
He will make a full end of the place thereof,
And darkness shall pursue His enemies.
9 What do ye devise against the LORD?
He will make a full end;
Trouble shall not rise up the second time.
10 For though they be like tangled thorns,
And be drunken according to their drink,
They shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.
11 Out of thee came he forth,
That deviseth evil against the LORD,
That counselleth wickedness.
12 Thus saith the LORD:
Though they be in full strength, and likewise many,
Even so shall they be cut down, and he shall pass away;

And though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict
thee no more.
13 And now will I break his yoke from off thee,
And will burst thy bonds in sunder.

HABAKKUK

The Problem of Evil

1 2 How long, O LORD, shall I cry,
And Thou wilt not hear?
I cry out unto Thee of violence,
And Thou wilt not save.
3 Why dost Thou show me iniquity,
And beholdest mischief?
And why are spoiling and violence before
me?
So that there is strife, and contention ariseth.
4 Therefore the law is slacked,
And right doth never go forth;
For the wicked doth beset the righteous;
Therefore right goeth forth perverted.

5 Look ye among the nations, and behold,
And wonder marvellously;
For, behold, a work shall be wrought in
your days,
Which ye will not believe though it be told
you.
6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans,
That bitter and impetuous nation,
That march through the breadth of the
earth,
To possess dwelling-places that are not theirs.
7 They are terrible and dreadful;

Their law and their majesty proceed from themselves.

8 Their horses also are swifter than leopards,
And are more fierce than the wolves of the desert;
And their horsemen spread themselves;
Yea, their horsemen come from far,
They fly as a vulture that hasteth to devour.

9 They come all of them for violence;
Their faces are set eagerly as the east wind;
And they gather captives as the sand.

10 And they scoff at kings,
And princes are a derision unto them;
They deride every stronghold,
For they heap up earth, and take it.

11 Then their spirit doth pass over and transgress,
And they become guilty:
Even they who impute their might unto their god.

12 Art not Thou from everlasting,
O LORD my God, my Holy One?
We shall not die.
O LORD, Thou hast ordained them for judgment,
And Thou, O Rock, hast established them for correction.

13 Thou that art of eyes too pure to behold evil,
And that canst not look on mischief,
Wherefore lookest Thou, when they deal treacherously,

And holdest Thy peace, when the wicked swalloweth up
The man that is more righteous than he;
14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea,
As the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?
15 They take up all of them with the angle,
They catch them in their net,
And gather them in their drag;
Therefore they rejoice and exult.
16 Therefore they sacrifice unto their net,
And offer unto their drag;
Because by them their portion is fat,
And their food plenteous.
17 Shall they therefore empty their net,
And not spare to slay the nations continually?

2 I will stand upon my watch,
And set me upon the tower,
And will look out to see what He will speak by me,
And what I shall answer when I am reproved.
2 And the LORD answered me, and said:
'Write the vision,
And make it plain upon tables,
That a man may read it swiftly.
3 For the vision is yet for the appointed time,
And it declareth of the end, and doth not lie;
Though it tarry, wait for it;
Because it will surely come, it will not delay.'

4 Behold, his soul is puffed up, it is not upright in him;
But the righteous shall live by his faith.
5 Yea, moreover, wine is a treacherous dealer;
The haughty man abideth not;
He who enlargeth his desire as the nether-world,
And is as death, and cannot be satisfied,
But gathereth unto him all nations,
And heapeth unto him all peoples.
6 Shall not all these take up a parable against him,
And a taunting riddle against him,
And say: 'Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his!
How long? and that ladeth himself with many pledges!'
7 Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall exact interest of thee,
And awake that shall violently shake thee,
And thou shalt be for booties unto them?
8 Because thou hast spoiled many nations,
All the remnant of the peoples shall spoil thee;
Because of men's blood, and for the violence done to the land,
To the city and to all that dwell therein.

9 Woe to him that gaineth evil gains for his house,
That he may set his nest on high,
That he may be delivered from the power of evil!
10 Thou hast devised shame to thy house,
By cutting off many peoples,

And hast forfeited thy life.
11 For the stone shall cry out of the wall,
And the beam out of the timber shall
answer it.

12 Woe to him that buildeth a town with
blood,
And establisheth a city by iniquity!
13 Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts
That the peoples labour for the fire,
And the nations weary themselves for vanity?
14 For the earth shall be filled
With the knowledge of the glory of the
LORD,
As the waters cover the sea.

ZEPHANIAH

Jerusalem Delivered from Doom

3 Woe to her that is filthy and polluted,
To the oppressing city!
2 She hearkened not to the voice,
She received not correction;
She trusted not in the LORD,
She drew not near to her God.
3 Her princes in the midst of her are roaring
lions;
Her judges are wolves of the desert,
They leave not a bone for the morrow.
4 Her prophets are wanton
And treacherous persons;
Her priests have profaned that which is holy,
They have done violence to the law.

5 The LORD who is righteous is in the midst of her,
He will not do unrighteousness;
Every morning doth He bring His right to light,
It faileth not;
But the unrighteous knoweth no shame.
6 I have cut off nations,
Their corners are desolate;
I have made their streets waste,
So that none passeth by;
Their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man,
So that there is no inhabitant.
7 I said: 'Surely thou wilt fear Me,
Thou wilt receive correction;
So her dwelling shall not be cut off,
Despite all that I have visited upon her';
But they betimes corrupted all their doings.

8 Therefore wait ye for Me, saith the LORD,
Until the day that I rise up to the prey;
For My determination is to gather the nations,
That I may assemble the kingdoms,
To pour upon them Mine indignation,
Even all My fierce anger;
For all the earth shall be devoured
With the fire of My jealousy.
9 For then will I turn to the peoples
A pure language,
That they may all call upon the name of the LORD,
To serve Him with one consent.
10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia

Shall they bring My suppliants,
Even the daughter of My dispersed,
As Mine offering.
11 In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for
all thy doings,
Wherein thou hast transgressed against Me;
For then I will take away out of the midst
of thee
Thy proudly exulting ones,
And thou shalt no more be haughty
In My holy mountain.
12 And I will leave in the midst of thee
An afflicted and poor people,
And they shall take refuge in the name of
the LORD.
13 The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity,
Nor speak lies,
Neither shall a deceitful tongue be found
in their mouth;
For they shall feed and lie down,
And none shall make them afraid.

14 Sing, O daughter of Zion,
Shout, O Israel;
Be glad and rejoice with all thy heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem.
15 The LORD hath taken away thy judgments,
He hath cast out thine enemy;
The King of Israel, even the LORD, is in the
midst of thee;
Thou shalt not fear evil any more.
16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
'Fear thou not;
O Zion, let not thy hands be slack.
17 The LORD thy God is in the midst of thee,

A Mighty One who will save;
He will rejoice over thee with joy,
He will be silent in His love,
He will joy over thee with singing.'
18 I will gather them that are far from the appointed season, who are of thee,
That hast borne the burden of reproach.
19 Behold, at that time
I will deal with all them that afflict thee;
And I will save her that is lame,
And gather her that was driven away;
And I will make them to be a praise and a name,
Whose shame hath been in all the earth.
20 At that time will I bring you in,
And at that time will I gather you;
For I will make you to be a name and a praise
Among all the peoples of the earth,
When I turn your captivity before your eyes,
Saith the LORD.

HAGGAI

Rebuilding the House of God

1 IN the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying: 2 'Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying: This people say: The time is not come, the time that the

LORD's house should be built.' 3 Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying: 4 'Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your ceiled houses, while this house lieth waste? 5 Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Consider your ways.

6 Ye have sown much, and brought in little.
Ye eat, but ye have not enough,
Ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink,
Ye clothe you, but there is none warm;
And he that earneth wages earneth wages
For a bag with holes.

7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. 8 Go up to the hill-country, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. 9 Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of My house that lieth waste, while ye run every man for his own house. 10 Therefore over you the heaven hath kept back, so that there is no dew, and the earth hath kept back her produce. 11 And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.'

ZECHARIAH

Not by Might or Power

2 14 'Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion;
for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst
of thee, saith the LORD. 15 And many nations
shall join themselves to the LORD in that day,
and shall be My people, and I will dwell in
the midst of thee'; and thou shalt know that the
LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee. 16 And
the LORD shall inherit Judah as His portion in
the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem
again. 17 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD;
for He is aroused out of His holy habitation.
3 And he showed me Joshua the high priest
standing before the angel of the LORD, and
Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.
2 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'The LORD
rebuke thee, O Satan, yea, the LORD that hath
chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee; is not this man
a brand plucked out of the fire?' 3 Now Joshua
was clothed with filthy garments, and stood be-
fore the angel. 4 And he answered and spoke
unto those that stood before him, saying: 'Take
the filthy garments from off him.' And unto
him he said: 'Behold, I cause thine iniquity to
pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with
robes.' 5 And I said: 'Let them set a fair mitre
upon his head.' So they set a fair mitre upon
his head, and clothed him with garments; and
the angel of the LORD stood by. 6 And the
angel of the LORD forewarned Joshua, saying:
7 'Thus saith the LORD of hosts: If thou wilt
walk in My ways, and if thou wilt keep My

charge, and wilt also judge My house, and wilt
also keep My courts, then I will give thee free
access among these that stand by. 8 Hear now,
O Joshua the high priest, thou and thy fellows
that sit before thee; for they are men that are
a sign; for, behold, I will bring forth My servant
the Shoot. 9 For behold the stone that I have
laid before Joshua; upon one stone are seven
facets; behold, I will engrave the graving
thereof, saith the LORD of hosts: And I will
remove the iniquity of that land in one day.
10 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye
call every man his neighbour under the vine
and under the fig-tree.'

4 And the angel that spoke with me returned,
and waked me, as a man that is wakened
out of his sleep. 2 And he said unto me: 'What
seest thou?' And I said: 'I have seen, and be-
hold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon
the top of it, and its seven lamps thereon; there
are seven pipes, yea, seven, to the lamps, which
are upon the top thereof; 3 and two olive-trees
by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and
the other upon the left side thereof.' 4 And I
answered and spoke to the angel that spoke
with me, saying: 'What are these, my lord?'
5 Then the angel that spoke with me answered
and said unto me: 'Knowest thou not what
these are?' And I said: 'No, my lord.' 6 Then
he answered and spoke unto me, saying: 'This
is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, say-
ing: Not by might, nor by power, but by My
spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.'

MALACHI

The Ideal Priest

2 5 My covenant was with him
Of life and peace, and I gave them to him,
And of fear, and he feared Me,
And was afraid of My name.
6 The law of truth was in his mouth,
And unrighteousness was not found in his lips;
He walked with Me in peace and uprightness,
And did turn many away from iniquity.
7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge,
And they should seek the law at his mouth;
For he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.
8 But ye are turned aside out of the way;
Ye have caused many to stumble in the law;
Ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi,
Saith the LORD of hosts.
9 Therefore have I also made you
Contemptible and base before all the people,
According as ye have not kept My ways,
But have had respect of persons in the law.

Have We Not All One Father?

10 Have we not all one father?
Hath not one God created us?
Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother,
Profaning the covenant of our fathers?
11 Judah hath dealt treacherously,
And an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem;

For Judah hath profaned the holiness of the
LORD which He loveth,
And hath married the daughter of a strange
god.
12 May the LORD cut off to the man that doeth
this
Him that calleth and him that answereth
out of the tents of Jacob,
And him that offereth an offering unto the
LORD of hosts.
13 And this further ye do:
Ye cover the altar of the LORD with tears,
With weeping, and with sighing,
Insomuch that He regardeth not the offering
any more,
Neither receiveth it with good will at your
hand.
14 Yet ye say: 'Wherefore?'
Because the LORD hath been witness
Between thee and the wife of thy youth,
Against whom thou hast dealt treacherously,
Though she is thy companion,
And the wife of thy covenant.
15 And not one hath done so
Who had exuberance of spirit!
For what seeketh the one?
A seed given of God.
Therefore take heed to your spirit,
And let none deal treacherously against the
wife of his youth.

PSALMS

The Good Man

1 HAPPY is the man that hath not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stood in the way of sinners,
Nor sat in the seat of the scornful.
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD;
And in His law doth he meditate day and
night.
3 And he shall be like a tree planted by
streams of water,
That bringeth forth its fruit in its season,
And whose leaf doth not wither;
And in whatsoever he doeth he shall prosper.

4 Not so the wicked;
But they are like the chaff which the wind
driveth away.
5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the
judgment,
Nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous.
6 For the LORD regardeth the way of the
righteous;
But the way of the wicked shall perish.

Why Do the Heathens Rage?

2 Why are the nations in an uproar?
And why do the peoples mutter in vain?
2 The kings of the earth stand up,
And the rulers take counsel together,
Against the LORD, and against His anointed:
3 'Let us break their bands asunder,
And cast away their cords from us.'

4 He that sitteth in heaven laugheth,
The Lord hath them in derision.
5 Then will He speak unto them in His wrath,
And affright them in His sore displeasure:
6 'Truly it is I that have established My king
Upon Zion, My holy mountain.'

7 I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said unto me: 'Thou art My son,
This day have I begotten thee.
8 Ask of Me, and I will give the nations for thine inheritance,
And the ends of the earth for thy possession.
9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron;
Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'

10 Now therefore, O ye kings, be wise;
Be admonished, ye judges of the earth.
11 Serve the LORD with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.
12 Do homage in purity, lest He be angry, and ye perish in the way,
When suddenly His wrath is kindled.

Happy are all they that take refuge in Him.

Fear Not

3 A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

2 LORD, how many are mine adversaries become!
Many are they that rise up against me.

3 Many there are that say of my soul:
'There is no salvation for him in God.'
Selah

4 But Thou, O LORD, art a shield about me;
My glory, and the lifter up of my head.
5 With my voice I call unto the LORD,
And He answereth me out of His holy mountain. Selah

6 I lay me down, and I sleep;
I awake, for the LORD sustaineth me.
7 I am not afraid of ten thousands of people,
That have set themselves against me round about.

8 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God;
For Thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek,
Thou hast broken the teeth of the wicked.

9 Salvation belongeth unto the LORD;
Thy blessing be upon Thy people. Selah

A Prayer for the Righteous

5 For the Leader; upon the Nehiloth. A Psalm of David.

2 Give ear to my words, O LORD,
Consider my meditation.
3 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God;
For unto Thee do I pray.

4 O LORD, in the morning shalt Thou hear my voice;

In the morning will I order my prayer unto
Thee, and will look forward.
5 For Thou art not a God that hath pleasure
in wickedness;
Evil shall not sojourn with Thee.
6 The boasters shall not stand in Thy sight,
Thou hatest all workers of iniquity.
7 Thou destroyest them that speak falsehood;
The LORD abhorreth the man of blood and
of deceit.
8 But as for me, in the abundance of Thy
lovingkindness will I come into Thy house;
I will bow down toward Thy holy temple
in the fear of Thee.

9 O LORD, lead me in Thy righteousness be-
cause of them that lie in wait for me;
Make Thy way straight before my face.
10 For there is no sincerity in their mouth;
Their inward part is a yawning gulf,
Their throat is an open sepulchre;
They make smooth their tongue.
11 Hold them guilty, O God,
Let them fall by their own counsels;
Cast them down in the multitude of their
transgressions;
For they have rebelled against Thee.

12 So shall all those that take refuge in Thee
rejoice,
They shall ever shout for joy,
And Thou shalt shelter them;
Let them also that love Thy name exult in
Thee.
13 For Thou dost bless the righteous;

O LORD, Thou dost encompass him with
favour as with a shield.

What Is Man?

8 For the Leader; upon the Gittith.
A Psalm of David.

2 O LORD, our Lord,
How glorious is Thy name in all the earth!
Whose majesty is rehearsed above the
heavens.
3 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings
hast Thou founded strength,
Because of Thine adversaries;
That Thou mightest still the enemy and
the avenger.

4 When I behold Thy heavens, the work of
Thy fingers,
The moon and the stars, which Thou hast
established;
5 What is man, that Thou art mindful of
him?
And the son of man, that Thou thinkest of
him?
6 Yet Thou hast made him but little lower
than the angels,
And hast crowned him with glory and
honour.
7 Thou hast made him to have dominion over
the works of Thy hands;
Thou hast put all things under his feet:
8 Sheep and oxen, all of them,
Yea, and the beasts of the field;

9 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea;
Whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

10 O LORD, our Lord,
How glorious is Thy name in all the earth!

9 For the Leader; upon Muth-labben.
A Psalm of David.

2 I will give thanks unto the LORD with my whole heart;
I will tell of all Thy marvellous works.
3 I will be glad and exult in Thee;
I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High:

4 When mine enemies are turned back,
They stumble and perish at Thy presence;
5 For Thou hast maintained my right and my cause;
Thou sattest upon the throne as the righteous Judge.

6 Thou hast rebuked the nations,
Thou hast destroyed the wicked,
Thou hast blotted out their name for ever and ever.
7 O thou enemy, the waste places are come to an end for ever;
And the cities which thou didst uproot,
Their very memorial is perished.

8 But the LORD is enthroned for ever;
He hath established His throne for judgment.

9 And He will judge the world in righteousness,
He will minister judgment to the peoples with equity.

10 The LORD also will be a high tower for the oppressed,
A high tower in times of trouble;
11 And they that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee;
For Thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee.

12 Sing praises to the LORD, who dwelleth in Zion;
Declare among the peoples His doings.
13 For He that avengeth blood hath remembered them;
He hath not forgotten the cry of the humble.

14 Be gracious unto me, O LORD,
Behold mine affliction at the hands of them that hate me;
Thou that liftest me up from the gates of death;
15 That I may tell of all Thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion.
That I may rejoice in Thy salvation.

16 The nations are sunk down in the pit that they made;
In the net which they hid is their own foot taken.
17 The LORD hath made Himself known, He hath executed judgment.

The wicked is snared in the work of his own
hands. Higgaion. Selah

18 The wicked shall return to the nether-world,
Even all the nations that forget God.
19 For the needy shall not alway be forgotten,
Nor the expectation of the poor perish for
ever.
20 Arise, O LORD, let not man prevail;
Let the nations be judged in Thy sight.
21 Set terror over them, O LORD;
Let the nations know they are but men.
Selah

Against Tyrants

10 Why standest Thou afar off, O LORD?
Why hidest Thou Thyself in times of
trouble?
2 Through the pride of the wicked the poor
is hotly pursued,
They are taken in the devices that they have
imagined.

3 For the wicked boasteth of his heart's de-
sire,
And the covetous vaunteth himself, though
he contemn the LORD.
4 The wicked, in the pride of his countenance
[,saith]: 'He will not require';
All his thoughts are: 'There is no God.'
5 His ways prosper at all times;
Thy judgments are far above out of his sight;
As for all his adversaries, he puffeth at them.
6 He saith in his heart: 'I shall not be moved,

I who to all generations shall not be in adversity.'
7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression;
Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.
8 He sitteth in the lurking-places of the villages;
In secret places doth he slay the innocent;
His eyes are on the watch for the helpless.
9 He lieth in wait in a secret place as a lion in his lair.
He lieth in wait to catch the poor;
He doth catch the poor, when he draweth him up in his net.
10 He croucheth, he boweth down,
And the helpless fall into his mighty claws.
11 He hath said in his heart: 'God hath forgotten;
He hideth His face; He will never see.'

12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Thy hand;
Forget not the humble.
13 Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God,
And say in his heart: 'Thou wilt not require'?
14 Thou hast seen; for Thou beholdest trouble and vexation, to requite them with Thy hand;
Unto Thee the helpless committeth himself;
Thou hast been the helper of the fatherless.

15 Break Thou the arm of the wicked;
And as for the evil man, search out his wickedness, till none be found.
16 The LORD is King for ever and ever;
The nations are perished out of His land.

17 LORD, Thou hast heard the desire of the humble:
Thou wilt direct their heart, Thou wilt cause Thine ear to attend;
18 To right the fatherless and the oppressed,
That man who is of the earth may be terrible no more.

A Song of Trust

11 For the Leader. [A Psalm] of David.

In the LORD have I taken refuge;
How say ye to my soul:
'Flee thou! to your mountain, ye birds'?

2 For, lo, the wicked bend the bow,
They have made ready their arrow upon the string,
That they may shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.
3 When the foundations are destroyed,
What hath the righteous wrought?

4 The LORD is in His holy temple,
The LORD, His throne is in heaven;
His eyes behold, His eyelids try, the children of men.
5 The LORD trieth the righteous;
But the wicked and him that loveth violence His soul hateth.
6 Upon the wicked He will cause to rain coals;
Fire and brimstone and burning wind shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the LORD is righteous, He loveth righteousness;
The upright shall behold His face.

A Prayer for Help

13 For the Leader. A Psalm of David.

2 How long, O LORD, wilt Thou forget me for ever?
How long wilt Thou hide Thy face from me?
3 How long shall I take counsel in my soul,
Having sorrow in my heart by day?
How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?
4 Behold Thou, and answer me, O LORD my God;
Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;
5 Lest mine enemy say: 'I have prevailed against him';
Lest mine adversaries rejoice when I am moved.

6 But as for me, in Thy mercy do I trust;
My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation.
I will sing unto the LORD,
Because He hath dealt bountifully with me.

Right Will Prevail

14 For the Leader. [A Psalm] of David.

The fool hath said in his heart: 'There is no God';

They have dealt corruptly, they have done abominably;
There is none that doeth good.
2 The LORD looked forth from heaven upon the children of men,
To see if there were any man of understanding, that did seek after God.
3 They are all corrupt, they are together become impure;
There is none that doeth good, no, not one.

4 'Shall not all the workers of iniquity know it,
Who eat up My people as they eat bread,
And call not upon the LORD?'
5 There are they in great fear;
For God is with the righteous generation.
6 Ye would put to shame the counsel of the poor,
But the LORD is his refuge.

7 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion!
When the LORD turneth the captivity of His people,
Let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

God's Gentleman

15 A Psalm of David.

LORD, who shall sojourn in Thy tabernacle?
Who shall dwell upon Thy holy mountain?
2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness,

And speaketh truth in his heart;
3 That hath no slander upon his tongue,
Nor doeth evil to his fellow,
Nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour;
4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised,
But he honoureth them that fear the LORD;
He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not;
5 He that putteth not out his money on interest,
Nor taketh a bribe against the innocent.
He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Life Overcomes Death

16 Michtam of David.

Keep me, O God; for I have taken refuge in Thee.
2 I have said unto the LORD: 'Thou art my Lord;
I have no good but in Thee';
3 As for the holy that are in the earth,
They are the excellent in whom is all my delight.
4 Let the idols of them be multiplied that make suit unto another;
Their drink-offerings of blood will I not offer,
Nor take their names upon my lips.
5 O LORD, the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup.
Thou maintainest my lot.

6 The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places;
Yea, I have a goodly heritage.
7 I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel;
Yea, in the night seasons my reins instruct me.
8 I have set the LORD always before me;
Surely He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth;
My flesh also dwelleth in safety;
10 For Thou wilt not abandon my soul to the nether-world;
Neither wilt Thou suffer Thy godly one to see the pit.
11 Thou makest me to know the path of life;
In Thy presence is fulness of joy,
In Thy right hand bliss for evermore.

A Prayer for Rescue

17 A Prayer of David.

Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry;
Give ear unto my prayer from lips without deceit.
2 Let my judgment come forth from Thy presence;
Let Thine eyes behold equity.
3 Thou hast tried my heart, Thou hast visited it in the night;

Thou hast tested me, and Thou findest not
That I had a thought which should not
pass my mouth.
4 As for the doings of men, by the word of
Thy lips
I have kept me from the ways of the violent.
5 My steps have held fast to Thy paths,
My feet have not slipped.

6 As for me, I call upon Thee, for Thou wilt
answer me, O God;
Incline Thine ear unto me, hear my speech.
7 Make passing great Thy mercies, O Thou
that savest by Thy right hand
From assailants them that take refuge in
Thee.
8 Keep me as the apple of the eye,
Hide me in the shadow of Thy wings,
9 From the wicked that oppress,
My deadly enemies, that compass me about.
10 Their gross heart they have shut tight,
With their mouth they speak proudly.
11 At our every step they have now encompassed
us;
They set their eyes to cast us down to the
earth.
12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear in
pieces,
And like a young lion lurking in secret
places.

13 Arise, O LORD, confront him, cast him down;
Deliver my soul from the wicked, by Thy
sword;
14 From men, by Thy hand, O LORD,

From men of the world, whose portion is in this life,
And whose belly Thou fillest with Thy treasure;
Who have children in plenty,
And leave their abundance to their babes.
15 As for me, I shall behold Thy face in righteousness;
I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy likeness.

A Soldier's Faith

18 For the Leader. [A Psalm] of David the servant of the LORD, who spoke unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul; 2 and he said:

I love thee, O LORD, my strength.
3 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
My God, my rock, in Him I take refuge;
My shield, and my horn of salvation, my high tower.
4 Praised, I cry, is the LORD.
And I am saved from mine enemies.

5 The cords of Death compassed me,
And the floods of Belial assailed me.
6 The cords of Sheol surrounded me;
The snares of Death confronted me.
7 In my distress I called upon the LORD,
And cried unto my God;

Out of His temple He heard my voice,
And my cry came before Him into His ears.

8 Then the earth did shake and quake,
The foundations also of the mountains did tremble;
They were shaken, because He was wroth.
9 Smoke arose up in His nostrils,
And fire out of His mouth did devour;
Coals flamed forth from Him.
10 He bowed the heavens also, and came down;
And thick darkness was under His feet.
11 And He rode upon a cherub, and did fly;
Yea, He did swoop down upon the wings of the wind.
12 He made darkness His hiding-place, His pavilion round about him;
Darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.
13 At the brightness before Him, there passed through His thick clouds
Hailstones and coals of fire.
14 The LORD also thundered in the heavens,
And the Most High gave forth His voice;
Hailstones and coals of fire.
15 And He sent out His arrows, and scattered them;
And He shot forth lightnings, and discomfited them.
16 And the channels of waters appeared,
And the foundations of the world were laid bare,
At Thy rebuke, O LORD,
At the blast of the breath of Thy nostrils.

17 He sent from on high, He took me;
He drew me out of many waters.

18 He delivered me from mine enemy most strong,
And from them that hated me, for they were too mighty for me.
19 They confronted me in the day of my calamity;
But the LORD was a stay unto me.
20 He brought me forth also into a large place;
He delivered me, because He delighted in me.
21 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;
According to the cleanness of my hands hath He recompensed me.

22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD,
And have not wickedly departed from my God.
23 For all His ordinances were before me,
And I put not away His statutes from me.
24 And I was single-hearted with Him,
And I kept myself from mine iniquity.
25 Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness,
According to the cleanness of my hands in His eyes.
26 With the merciful Thou dost show Thyself merciful,
With the upright man Thou dost show Thyself upright;
27 With the pure Thou dost show Thyself pure;
And with the crooked Thou dost show Thyself subtle.
28 For Thou dost save the afflicted people;
But the haughty eyes Thou dost humble.

29 For Thou dost light my lamp;
The LORD my God doth lighten my darkness.
30 For by Thee I run upon a troop;
And by my God do I scale a wall.
31 As for God, His way is perfect;
The word of the LORD is tried;
He is a shield unto all them that take refuge
in Him.

32 For who is God, save the LORD?
And who is a Rock, except our God?
33 The God that girdeth me with strength,
And maketh my way straight;
34 Who maketh my feet like hinds',
And setteth me upon my high places;
35 Who traineth my hands for war,
So that mine arms do bend a bow of brass.
36 Thou hast also given me Thy shield of salvation,
And Thy right hand hath holden me up;
And Thy condescension hath made me great.
37 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me,
And my feet have not slipped.

Two Revelations of God

19 For the Leader. A Psalm of David.

2 The heavens declare the glory of God,
And the firmament showeth His handiwork;
3 Day unto day uttereth speech,
And night unto night revealeth knowledge;
4 There is no speech, there are no words,
Neither is their voice heard.
5 Their line is gone out through all the earth,

And their words to the end of the world.
In them hath He set a tent for the sun,
6 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
And rejoiceth as a strong man to run his course.
7 His going forth is from the end of the heaven,
And his circuit unto the ends of it;
And there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

8 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.
9 The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.
10 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever;
The ordinances of the LORD are true, they are righteous altogether;
11 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
12 Moreover by them is Thy servant warned;
In keeping of them there is great reward.
13 Who can discern errors?
Clear Thou me from hidden faults.
14 Keep back Thy servant also from presumptuous sins,
That they may not have dominion over me;
then shall I be faultless,
And I shall be clear from great transgression.

15 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable before Thee,
O LORD, my Rock, and my Redeemer.

A Prayer for Victory

20 For the Leader. A Psalm of David.

2 The LORD answer thee in the day of trouble;
The name of the God of Jacob set thee up on high;
3 Send forth thy help from the sanctuary,
And support thee out of Zion;
4 Receive the memorial of all thy meal-offerings,
And accept the fat of thy burnt-sacrifice;
Selah
5 Grant thee according to thine own heart,
And fulfil all thy counsel.
6 We will shout for joy in thy victory,
And in the name of our God we will set up our standards;
The LORD fulfil all thy petitions.

7 Now know I that the LORD saveth His anointed;
He will answer him from His holy heaven
With the mighty acts of His saving right hand.
8 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses;
But we will make mention of the name of the LORD our God.
9 They are bowed down and fallen;
But we are risen, and stand upright.
10 Save, LORD;

Let the king answer us in the day that we call.

The Lord Is My Shepherd

23 A Psalm of David.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul;
He guideth me in straight paths for His name's sake.
4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
For Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.
5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou hast anointed my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Clean Hands and a Pure Heart

24 A Psalm of David.

The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof;
The world, and they that dwell therein.
2 For He hath founded it upon the seas,

And established it upon the floods.
3 Who shall ascend into the mountain of the LORD?
And who shall stand in His holy place?
4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart;
Who hath not taken My name in vain,
And hath not sworn deceitfully.
5 He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 Such is the generation of them that seek after Him,
That seek Thy face, even Jacob. Selah

7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
And be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors;
That the King of glory may come in.
8 'Who is the King of glory?'
'The LORD strong and mighty,
The LORD mighty in battle.'
9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
Yea, lift them up, ye everlasting doors;
That the King of glory may come in.
10 'Who then is the King of glory?'
'The LORD of hosts;
He is the King of glory.' Selah

A Prayer

25 [A Psalm] of David.

Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.
2 O my God, in Thee have I trusted, let me not be ashamed;
Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

3 Yea, none that wait for Thee shall be ashamed;
They shall be ashamed that deal treacherously without cause.
4 Show me Thy ways, O LORD;
Teach me Thy paths.
5 Guide me in Thy truth, and teach me;
For Thou art the God of my salvation;
For Thee do I wait all the day.
6 Remember, O LORD, Thy compassions and Thy mercies;
For they have been from of old.
7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;
According to Thy mercy remember Thou me,
For Thy goodness' sake, O LORD.
8 Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore doth He instruct sinners in the way.
9 He guideth the humble in justice;
And He teacheth the humble His way.
10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth
Unto such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.
11 For Thy name's sake, O LORD,
Pardon mine iniquity, for it is great.
12 What man is he that feareth the LORD?
Him will He instruct in the way that He should choose.
13 His soul shall abide in prosperity;
And his seed shall inherit the land.
14 The counsel of the LORD is with them that fear Him;

And His covenant, to make them know it.
15 Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD;
For He will bring forth my feet out of the net.
16 Turn Thee unto me, and be gracious unto me;
For I am solitary and afflicted.
17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
O bring Thou me out of my distresses.
18 See mine affliction and my travail;
And forgive all my sins.
19 Consider how many are mine enemies,
And the cruel hatred wherewith they hate me.
20 O keep my soul, and deliver me;
Let me not be ashamed, for I have taken refuge in Thee.
21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
Because I wait for Thee.

22 Redeem Israel, O God,
Out of all his troubles.

Integrity

26 [A Psalm] of David.

Judge me, O LORD, for I have walked in mine integrity,
And I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
2 Examine me, O LORD, and try me;
Test my reins and my heart.
3 For Thy mercy is before mine eyes;
And I have walked in Thy truth.

4 I have not sat with men of falsehood;
Neither will I go in with dissemblers.
5 I hate the gathering of evil-doers,
And will not sit with the wicked.
6 I will wash my hands in innocency;
So will I compass Thine altar, O LORD,
7 That I may make the voice of thanksgiving
to be heard,
And tell of all Thy wondrous works.

8 LORD, I love the habitation of Thy house,
And the place where Thy glory dwelleth.
9 Gather not my soul with sinners,
Nor my life with men of blood;
10 In whose hands is craftiness,
And their right hand is full of bribes.
11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity;
Redeem me, and be gracious unto me.
12 My foot standeth in an even place;
In the congregations will I bless the LORD.

A Psalm of Confidence

27 [A Psalm] of David.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
2 When evil-doers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
Even mine adversaries and my foes, they stumbled and fell.
3 Though a host should encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear;

Though war should rise up against me,
Even then will I be confident.

4 One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
To behold the graciousness of the LORD, and to visit early in His temple.
5 For He concealeth me in His pavilion in the day of evil;
He hideth me in the covert of His tent;
He lifteth me up upon a rock.
6 And now shall my head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me;
And I will offer in His tabernacle sacrifices with trumpet-sound;
I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

7 Hear, O LORD, when I call with my voice,
And be gracious unto me, and answer me,
8 In Thy behalf my heart hath said: 'Seek ye My face';
Thy face, LORD, will I seek.
9 Hide not Thy face from me;
Put not Thy servant away in anger;
Thou hast been my help;
Cast me not off, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
10 For though my father and my mother have forsaken me,
The LORD will take me up.

11 Teach me Thy way, O LORD;
And lead me in an even path,

Because of them that lie in wait for me.
12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine adversaries;
For false witnesses are risen up against me,
and such as breathe out violence.
13 If I had not believed to look upon the goodness of the LORD
In the land of the living!—
14 Wait for the LORD;
Be strong, and let thy heart take courage;
Yea, wait thou for the LORD.

In Sickness

30 A Psalm; a Song at the Dedication of the House; of David.

2 I will extol Thee, O LORD, for Thou hast raised me up,
And hast not suffered mine enemies to rejoice over me.

3 O LORD my God,
I cried unto Thee, and Thou didst heal me;
4 O LORD, Thou broughtest up my soul from the nether-world;
Thou didst keep me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
5 Sing praise unto the LORD, O ye His godly ones,
And give thanks to His holy name.
6 For His anger is but for a moment,
His favour is for a life-time;
Weeping may tarry for the night,
But joy cometh in the morning.

7 Now I had said in my security:
'I shall never be moved.'
8 Thou hadst established, O LORD, in Thy favour my mountain as a stronghold—
Thou didst hide Thy face; I was affrighted.
9 Unto Thee, O LORD, did I call,
And unto the LORD I made supplication:
10 'What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit?
Shall the dust praise Thee? shall it declare Thy truth?
11 Hear, O LORD, and be gracious unto me;
LORD, be Thou my helper.'

12 Thou didst turn for me my mourning into dancing;
Thou didst loose my sackcloth, and gird me with gladness;
13 So that my glory may sing praise to Thee, and not be silent;
O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto Thee for ever.

At Peace with God

32 [A Psalm] of David. Maschil.

Happy is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is pardoned.
2 Happy is the man unto whom the LORD counteth not iniquity,
And in whose spirit there is no guile.

3 When I kept silence, my bones wore away
Through my groaning all the day long.
4 For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me;

My sap was turned as in the droughts of summer. Selah

5 I acknowledged my sin unto Thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid;
I said: 'I will make confession concerning my transgressions unto the LORD'—
And Thou, Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah

6 For this let every one that is godly pray unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found;
Surely, when the great waters overflow, they will not reach unto him.
7 Thou art my hiding-place; Thou wilt preserve me from the adversary;
With songs of deliverance Thou wilt compass me about. Selah
8 'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go;
I will give counsel, Mine eye being upon thee.'
9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding;
Whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle,
That they come not near unto thee.

10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked;
But he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy compasseth him about.
11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous;
And shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

The Goodness of God

34 [A Psalm] of David; when he changed his demeanour before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.

2 I will bless the LORD at all times;
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
3 My soul shall glory in the LORD;
The humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
4 O magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together.
5 I sought the LORD, and He answered me,
And delivered me from all my fears.
6 They looked unto Him, and were radiant;
And their faces shall never be abashed.
7 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard,
And saved him out of all his troubles.
8 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear Him,
And delivereth them.
9 O consider and see that the LORD is good;
Happy is the man that taketh refuge in Him.
10 O fear the LORD, ye His holy ones;
For there is no want to them that fear Him.
11 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger;
But they that seek the LORD want not any good thing.
12 Come, ye children, hearken unto me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
13 Who is the man that desireth life,
And loveth days, that he may see good therein?
14 Keep thy tongue from evil,
And thy lips from speaking guile.

15 Depart from evil, and do good;
Seek peace, and pursue it.
16 The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous,
And His ears are open unto their cry.
17 The face of the LORD is against them that do evil,
To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
18 They cried, and the LORD heard,
And delivered them out of all their troubles.
19 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart,
And saveth such as are of a contrite spirit.
20 Many are the ills of the righteous,
But the LORD delivereth him out of them all.
21 He keepeth all his bones;
Not one of them is broken.
22 Evil shall kill the wicked;
And they that hate the righteous shall be held guilty.

23 The LORD redeemeth the soul of His servants;
And none of them that take refuge in Him shall be desolate.

Frailty of Life

39 For the Leader, for Jeduthun.
A Psalm of David.

2 I said: 'I will take heed to my ways,
That I sin not with my tongue;
I will keep a curb upon my mouth,
While the wicked is before me.'
3 I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, had no comfort;

And my pain was held in check.
4 My heart waxed hot within me;
While I was musing, the fire kindled;
Then spoke I with my tongue:

5 'LORD, make me to know mine end,
And the measure of my days, what it is;
Let me know how short-lived I am.
6 Behold, Thou hast made my days as hand-breadths;
And mine age is as nothing before Thee;
Surely every man at his best estate is altogether vanity. Selah
7 Surely man walketh as a mere semblance;
Surely for vanity they are in turmoil;
He heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

8 And now, Lord, what wait I for?
My hope, it is in Thee.
9 Deliver me from all my transgressions;
Make me not the reproach of the base.
10 I am dumb, I open not my mouth;
Because Thou hast done it.
11 Remove Thy stroke from off me;
I am consumed by the blow of Thy hand.
12 With rebukes dost Thou chasten man for iniquity,
And like a moth Thou makest his beauty to consume away;
Surely every man is vanity. Selah

13 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry;
Keep not silence at my tears;
For I am a stranger with Thee.

A sojourner, as all my fathers were.
14 Look away from me, that I may take comfort,
Before I go hence, and be no more.'

Longing for God

42 For the Leader; Maschil of the sons of Korah.

2 As the hart panteth after the water brooks,
So panteth my soul after Thee, O God.
3 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God:
'When shall I come and appear before God?'
4 My tears have been my food day and night,
While they say unto me all the day: 'Where is thy God?'
5 These things I remember, and pour out my soul within me,
How I passed on with the throng, and led them to the house of God,
With the voice of joy and praise, a multitude keeping holyday.
6 Why art thou cast down, O my soul?
And why moanest thou within me?
Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him
For the salvation of His countenance.

7 O my God, my soul is cast down within me;
Therefore do I remember Thee from the land of Jordan,
And the Hermons, from the hill Mizar.
8 Deep calleth unto deep at the voice of Thy cataracts;

All Thy waves and Thy billows are gone over me.
9 By day the LORD will command His loving-kindness,
And in the night His song shall be with me,
Even a prayer unto the God of my life.
10 I will say unto God my Rock: 'Why hast thou forgotten me?
Why go I mourning under the oppression of the enemy?'
11 As with a crushing in my bones, mine adversaries taunt me;
While they say unto me all the day: 'Where is thy God?'
12 Why art thou cast down, O my soul?
And why moanest thou within me?
Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him,
The salvation of my countenance, and my God.

43 Be Thou my judge, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation;
O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.
2 For Thou art the God of my strength; why hast Thou cast me off?
Why go I mourning under the oppression of the enemy?
3 O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me;
Let them bring me unto Thy holy mountain, and to Thy dwelling-places;
4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God, my exceeding joy;

And praise Thee upon the harp, O God, my God.

5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul?
And why moanest thou within me?
Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him,
The salvation of my countenance, and my God.

God Our Fortress

46 For the Leader; [a Psalm] of the sons of Korah; upon Alamoth. A Song.

2 God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
3 Therefore will we not fear, though the earth do change,
And though the mountains be moved into the heart of the seas;
4 Though the waters thereof roar and foam,
Though the mountains shake at the swelling thereof. Selah

5 There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the city of God,
The holiest dwelling-place of the Most High.
6 God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;
God shall help her, at the approach of morning.
7 Nations were in tumult, kingdoms were moved;
He uttered His voice, the earth melted.
8 The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our high tower. Selah

9 Come, behold the works of the LORD,
Who hath made desolations in the earth.
10 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth;
He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder;
He burneth the chariots in the fire.
11 'Let be, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'
12 The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our high tower. Selah

Death Comes to All

49 For the Leader; a Psalm of the sons of Korah.

2 Hear this, all ye peoples;
Give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world,
3 Both low and high,
Rich and poor together.
4 My mouth shall speak wisdom,
And the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
5 I will incline mine ear to a parable;
I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

6 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil,
When the iniquity of my supplanters compasseth me about,
7 Of them that trust in their wealth,
And boast themselves in the multitude of their riches?
8 No man can by any means redeem his brother,
Nor give to God a ransom for him—

9 For too costly is the redemption of their soul,
And must be let alone for ever—
10 That he should still live alway,
That he should not see the pit.
11 For he seeth that wise men die,
The fool and the brutish together perish,
And leave their wealth to others.
12 Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever,
And their dwelling-places to all generations;
They call their lands after their own names.
13 But man abideth not in honour;
He is like the beasts that perish.

14 This is the way of them that are foolish,
And of those who after them approve their sayings. Selah
15 Like sheep they are appointed for the nether-world;
Death shall be their shepherd;
And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning;
And their form shall be for the nether-world to wear away,
That there be no habitation for it.
16 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the nether-world;
For He shall receive me. Selah

17 Be not thou afraid when one waxeth rich,
When the wealth of his house is increased;
18 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away;
His wealth shall not descend after him.
19 Though while he lived he blessed his soul:

'Men will praise thee, when thou shalt do
well to thyself';
20 It shall go to the generation of his fathers;
They shall never see the light.
21 Man that is in honour understandeth not;
He is like the beasts that perish.

Penitence

51 For the Leader. A Psalm of David;
2 when Nathan the prophet came unto
him, after he had gone in to Bath-sheba.

3 Be gracious unto me, O God, according to
Thy mercy;
According to the multitude of Thy compas-
sions blot out my transgressions.
4 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.
5 For I know my transgressions;
And my sin is ever before me.
6 Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned,
And done that which is evil in Thy sight;
That Thou mayest be justified when Thou
speakest,
And be in the right when Thou judgest.

7 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin did my mother conceive me.
8 Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward
parts;
Make me, therefore, to know wisdom in mine
inmost heart.
9 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

10 Make me to hear joy and gladness;
That the bones which Thou hast crushed may rejoice.
11 Hide Thy face from my sins,
And blot out all mine iniquities.
12 Create me a clean heart, O God;
And renew a stedfast spirit within me.
13 Cast me not away from Thy presence;
And take not Thy holy spirit from me.
14 Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
And let a willing spirit uphold me.
15 Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways;
And sinners shall return unto Thee.
16 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
Thou God of my salvation;
So shall my tongue sing aloud of Thy righteousness.
17 O Lord, open Thou my lips;
And my mouth shall declare Thy praise.
18 For Thou delightest not in sacrifice, else would I give it;
Thou hast no pleasure in burnt-offering.
19 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

A Plea for God's Judgment

55 For the Leader; with string-music. Maschil of David.

2 Give ear, O God, to my prayer;
And hide not Thyself from my supplication.
3 Attend unto me, and answer me;
I am distraught in my complaint, and will moan;

4 Because of the voice of the enemy,
Because of the oppression of the wicked;
For they cast mischief upon me,
And in anger they persecute me.
5 My heart doth writhe within me;
And the terrors of death are fallen upon me.
6 Fear and trembling come upon me,
And horror hath overwhelmed me.
7 And I said: 'Oh that I had wings like a dove!
Then would I fly away, and be at rest.
8 Lo, then would I wander far off,
I would lodge in the wilderness. Selah
9 I would haste me to a shelter
From the stormy wind and tempest.'
10 Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongue;
For I have seen violence and strife in the city.
11 Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof;
Iniquity also and mischief are in the midst of it.
12 Wickedness is in the midst thereof;
Oppression and guile depart not from her broad place.
13 For it was not an enemy that taunted me,
Then I could have borne it;
Neither was it mine adversary that did magnify himself against me,
Then I would have hid myself from him.
14 But it was thou, a man mine equal,
My companion, and my familiar friend;
15 We took sweet counsel together,
In the house of God we walked with the throng.
16 May He incite death against them,

Let them go down alive into the nether-
world;
For evil is in their dwelling, and within them.

17 As for me, I will call upon God;
And the LORD will save me.
18 Evening, and morning, and at noonday, will
I complain, and moan;
And He hath heard my voice.
19 He hath redeemed my soul in peace so that
none came nigh me;
For they were many that strove with me.
20 God shall hear, and humble them,
Even He that is enthroned of old, Selah
Such as have no changes,
And fear not God.
21 He hath put forth his hands against them
that were at peace with him;
He hath profaned his covenant.
22 Smoother than cream were the speeches of
his mouth,
But his heart was war;
His words were softer than oil,
Yet were they keen-edged swords.

23 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He will
sustain thee;
He will never suffer the righteous to be
moved.
24 But Thou, O God, wilt bring them down
into the nethermost pit;
Men of blood and deceit shall not live out
half their days;
But as for me, I will trust in Thee.

Longing for God

63 A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

2 O God, Thou art my God, earnestly will I seek Thee;
My soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh longeth for Thee,
In a dry and weary land, where no water is.
3 So have I looked for Thee in the sanctuary,
To see Thy power and Thy glory.

4 For Thy lovingkindness is better than life;
My lips shall praise Thee.
5 So will I bless Thee as long as I live;
In Thy name will I lift up my hands.

6 My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness;
And my mouth doth praise Thee with joyful lips;
7 When I remember Thee upon my couch,
And meditate on Thee in the night-watches.

8 For Thou hast been my help,
And in the shadow of Thy wings do I rejoice.
9 My soul cleaveth unto Thee;
Thy right hand holdeth me fast.

10 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it,
Shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth.
11 They shall be hurled to the power of the sword;

They shall be a portion for foxes.
12 But the king shall rejoice in God;
Every one that sweareth by Him shall glory;
For the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

The Universal God

67 For the Leader; with string-music. A Psalm, a Song.

2 God be gracious unto us, and bless us;
May He cause His face to shine toward us;
Selah
3 That Thy way may be known upon earth,
Thy salvation among all nations.

4 Let the peoples give thanks unto Thee, O God;
Let the peoples give thanks unto Thee, all of them.
5 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy;
For Thou wilt judge the peoples with equity,
And lead the nations upon earth. Selah

6 Let the peoples give thanks unto Thee, O God;
Let the peoples give thanks unto Thee, all of them.
7 The earth hath yielded her increase;
May God, our own God, bless us.
8 May God bless us;
And let all the ends of the earth fear Him.

Consolation of the Good

73 A Psalm of Asaph.

Surely God is good to Israel,
Even to such as are pure in heart.
2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone;
My steps had well nigh slipped.
3 For I was envious at the arrogant,
When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
4 For there are no pangs at their death,
And their body is sound.
5 In the trouble of man they are not;
Neither are they plagued like men.
6 Therefore pride is as a chain about their neck;
Violence covereth them as a garment.
7 Their eyes stand forth from fatness;
They are gone beyond the imaginations of their heart.
8 They scoff, and in wickedness utter oppression;
They speak as if there were none on high.
9 They have set their mouth against the heavens,
And their tongue walketh through the earth.
10 Therefore His people return hither;
And waters of fulness are drained out by them.
11 And they say: 'How doth God know?
And is there knowledge in the Most High?'
12 Behold, such are the wicked;
And they that are always at ease increase riches.
13 Surely in vain have I cleansed my heart,

And washed my hands in innocency;
14 For all the day have I been plagued,
And my chastisement came every morning.

15 If I had said: 'I will speak thus',
Behold, I had been faithless to the generation of Thy children.
16 And when I pondered how I might know this,
It was wearisome in mine eyes;
17 Until I entered into the sanctuary of God,
And considered their end.
18 Surely Thou settest them in slippery places;
Thou hurlest them down to utter ruin.
19 How are they become a desolation in a moment!
They are wholly consumed by terrors.
20 As a dream when one awaketh,
So, O Lord, when Thou arousest Thyself,
Thou wilt despise their semblance.
21 For my heart was in a ferment,
And I was pricked in my reins.
22 But I was brutish, and ignorant;
I was as a beast before Thee.

23 Nevertheless I am continually with Thee;
Thou holdest my right hand.
24 Thou wilt guide me with Thy counsel,
And afterward receive me with glory.
25 Whom have I in heaven but Thee?
And beside Thee I desire none upon earth.
26 My flesh and my heart faileth;
But God is the rock of my heart and my portion for ever.

27 For, lo, they that go far from Thee shall perish;
Thou dost destroy all them that go astray from Thee.
28 But as for me, the nearness of God is my good;
I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
That I may tell of all Thy works.

Thanksgiving

75 For the Leader; Al-tashheth. A Psalm of Asaph, a Song.

2 We give thanks unto Thee, O God,
We give thanks, and Thy name is near;
Men tell of Thy wondrous works.

3 'When I take the appointed time,
I Myself will judge with equity.
4 When the earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved,
I Myself establish the pillars of it.' Selah

5 I say unto the arrogant: 'Deal not arrogantly';
And to the wicked: 'Lift not up the horn.'
6 Lift not up your horn on high;
Speak not insolence with a haughty neck.
7 For neither from the east, nor from the west,
Nor yet from the wilderness, cometh lifting up.
8 For God is judge;
He putteth down one, and lifteth up another.
9 For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup,
with foaming wine, full of mixture,

And He poureth out of the same;
Surely the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall drain them, and drink them.

10 But as for me, I will declare for ever,
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
11 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off;
But the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

Do Justice

82 A Psalm of Asaph.

God standeth in the congregation of God;
In the midst of the judges He judgeth:
2 'How long will ye judge unjustly,
And respect the persons of the wicked? Selah
3 Judge the poor and fatherless;
Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.
4 Rescue the poor and needy;
Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.
5 They know not, neither do they understand;
They go about in darkness;
All the foundations of the earth are moved.
6 I said: Ye are godlike beings,
And all of you sons of the Most High.
7 Nevertheless ye shall die like men,
And fall like one of the princes.'

8 Arise, O God, judge the earth;
For Thou shalt possess all the nations.

In His Temple

84 For the Leader; upon the Gittith. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

2 How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!
3 My soul yearneth, yea, even pineth for the courts of the LORD;
My heart and my flesh sing for joy unto the living God.
4 Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself,
Where she may lay her young;
Thine altars, O LORD of hosts,
My King, and my God—.
5 Happy are they that dwell in Thy house,
They are ever praising Thee. Selah

6 Happy is the man whose strength is in Thee;
In whose heart are the highways.
7 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs;
Yea, the early rain clotheth it with blessings.
8 They go from strength to strength,
Every one of them appeareth before God in Zion.

9 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah
10 Behold, O God our shield,
And look upon the face of Thine anointed.
11 For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand;
I had rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God,

Than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
12 For the LORD God is a sun and a shield;
The LORD giveth grace and glory;
No good thing will He withhold from them
that walk uprightly.
13 O LORD of hosts,
Happy is the man that trusteth in Thee.

A Plea for God's Help

86 A Prayer of David.

Incline Thine ear, O LORD, and answer me;
For I am poor and needy.
2 Keep my soul, for I am godly;
O Thou my God, save Thy servant that trusteth in Thee.
3 Be gracious unto me, O Lord;
For unto Thee do I cry all the day.
4 Rejoice the soul of Thy servant;
For unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
5 For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to pardon,
And plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer;
And attend unto the voice of my supplications.
7 In the day of my trouble I call upon Thee;
For Thou wilt answer me.
8 There is none like unto Thee among the gods, O LORD;
And there are no works like Thine.

9 All nations whom Thou hast made shall
come and prostrate themselves before Thee,
O Lord;
And they shall glorify Thy name.
10 For Thou art great, and doest wondrous
things;
Thou art God alone.

11 Teach me, O LORD, Thy way, that I may
walk in Thy truth;
Make one my heart to fear Thy name.
12 I will thank Thee, O Lord my God, with my
whole heart;
And I will glorify Thy name for evermore.
13 For great is Thy mercy toward me;
And Thou hast delivered my soul from the
lowest nether-world.

14 O God, the proud are risen up against me,
And the company of violent men have sought
after my soul,
And have not set Thee before them.
15 But Thou, O Lord, art a God full of com-
passion and gracious,
Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy and
truth.
16 O turn unto me, and be gracious unto me;
Give Thy strength unto Thy servant,
And save the son of Thy handmaid.
17 Work in my behalf a sign for good;
That they that hate me may see it, and be
put to shame,
Because Thou, LORD, hast helped me, and
comforted me.

The Days of Our Years

90 A Prayer of Moses the man of God.

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
Or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.
3 Thou turnest man to contrition;
And sayest: 'Return, ye children of men.'
4 For a thousand years in Thy sight
Are but as yesterday when it is past,
And as a watch in the night.
5 Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep;
In the morning they are like grass which groweth up.
6 In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up;
In the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

7 For we are consumed in Thine anger,
And by Thy wrath are we hurried away.
8 Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee,
Our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance.
9 For all our days are passed away in Thy wrath;
We bring our years to an end as a tale that is told.
10 The days of our years are three-score years and ten,

Or even by reason of strength four-score years;
Yet is their pride but travail and vanity;
For it is speedily gone, and we fly away.
11 Who knoweth the power of Thine anger,
And Thy wrath according to the fear that is due unto Thee?
12 So teach us to number our days,
That we may get us a heart of wisdom.

13 Return, O LORD; how long?
And let it repent Thee concerning Thy servants.
14 O satisfy us in the morning with Thy mercy;
That we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
15 Make us glad according to the days wherein Thou hast afflicted us,
According to the years wherein we have seen evil.
16 Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants,
And Thy glory upon their children.
17 And let the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
Establish Thou also upon us the work of our hands;
Yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

God's Protection

91 O thou that dwellest in the covert of the Most High,
And abidest in the shadow of the Almighty;
2 I will say of the LORD, who is my refuge and my fortress,
My God, in whom I trust,

3 That He will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler,
And from the noisome pestilence.
4 He will cover thee with His pinions,
And under His wings shalt thou take refuge;
His truth is a shield and a buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror by night,
Nor of the arrow that flieth by day;
6 Of the pestilence that walketh in darkness,
Nor of the destruction that wasteth at noon-day.

7 A thousand may fall at thy side,
And ten thousand at thy right hand;
It shall not come nigh thee.
8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold,
And see the recompense of the wicked.

9 For thou hast made the LORD who is my refuge,
Even the Most High, thy habitation.
10 There shall no evil befall thee,
Neither shall any plague come nigh thy tent.

11 For He will give His angels charge over thee,
To keep thee in all thy ways.
12 They shall bear thee upon their hands,
Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and asp;
The young lion and the serpent shalt thou trample under feet.

14 'Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him;

I will set him on high, because he hath known
My name.
15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer
him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him, and bring him to honour.
16 With long life will I satisfy him,
And make him to behold My salvation.'

Sabbath Psalm

92 A Psalm, a Song. For the sabbath day.

2 It is a good thing to give thanks unto the
LORD,
And to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most
High;
3 To declare Thy lovingkindness in the morning,
And Thy faithfulness in the night seasons,
4 With an instrument of ten strings, and with
the psaltery;
With a solemn sound upon the harp.

5 For Thou, LORD, hast made me glad through
Thy work;
I will exult in the works of Thy hands.
6 How great are Thy works, O LORD!
Thy thoughts are very deep.
7 A brutish man knoweth not,
Neither doth a fool understand this.
8 When the wicked spring up as the grass,
And when all the workers of iniquity do
flourish;
It is that they may be destroyed for ever.

9 But Thou, O LORD, art on high for evermore.
10 For, lo, Thine enemies, O LORD,
For, lo, Thine enemies shall perish;
All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
11 But my horn hast Thou exalted like the horn of the wild-ox.

The Wicked Must Fall

94 O LORD, Thou God to whom vengeance belongeth,
Thou God to whom vengeance belongeth, shine forth.
2 Lift up Thyself, Thou Judge of the earth;
Render to the proud their recompense.

3 LORD, how long shall the wicked,
How long shall the wicked exult?
4 They gush out, they speak arrogancy;
All the workers of iniquity bear themselves loftily.
5 They crush Thy people, O LORD,
And afflict Thy heritage.
6 They slay the widow and the stranger,
And murder the fatherless.
7 And they say: 'The LORD will not see,
Neither will the God of Jacob give heed.'

8 Consider, ye brutish among the people;
And ye fools, when will ye understand?
9 He that planted the ear, shall He not hear?
He that formed the eye, shall He not see?
10 He that instructeth nations, shall not He correct,

Even He that teacheth man knowledge?
11 The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man,
That they are vanity.

12 Happy is the man whom Thou instructest, O LORD,
And teachest out of Thy law;
13 That Thou mayest give him rest from the days of evil,
Until the pit be digged for the wicked.
14 For the LORD will not cast off His people,
Neither will He forsake His inheritance.
15 For right shall return unto justice,
And all the upright in heart shall follow it.

16 Who will rise up for me against the evil-doers?
Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?
17 Unless the LORD had been my help,
My soul had soon dwelt in silence.
18 If I say: 'My foot slippeth',
Thy mercy, O LORD, holdeth me up.
19 When my cares are many within me,
Thy comforts delight my soul.

20 Shall the seat of wickedness have fellowship with Thee,
Which frameth mischief by statute?
21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous,
And condemn innocent blood.
22 But the LORD hath been my high tower,
And my God the rock of my refuge.
23 And He hath brought upon them their own iniquity,

And will cut them off in their own evil;
The LORD our God will cut them off.

The Beauty of Holiness

96 O sing unto the LORD a new song;
Sing unto the LORD, all the earth.
2 Sing unto the LORD, bless His name;
Proclaim His salvation from day to day.
3 Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvellous works among all the peoples.

4 For great is the LORD, and highly to be praised;
He is to be feared above all gods.
5 For all the gods of the peoples are things of nought;
But the LORD made the heavens.
6 Honour and majesty are before Him;
Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

7 Ascribe unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the peoples,
Ascribe unto the LORD glory and strength.
8 Ascribe unto the LORD the glory due unto His name;
Bring an offering, and come into His courts.
9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
Tremble before Him, all the earth.

10 Say among the nations: 'The LORD reigneth.'
The world also is established that it cannot be moved;
He will judge the peoples with equity.
11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof;
12 Let the field exult, and all that is therein;
Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy;
13 Before the LORD, for He is come;
For He is come to judge the earth;
He will judge the world with righteousness,
And the peoples in His faithfulness.

God's Gentleness

103 [A Psalm] of David.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
And all that is within me, bless His holy name.
2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And forget not all His benefits;
3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquity;
Who healeth all thy diseases;
4 Who redeemeth thy life from the pit;
Who encompasseth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;
5 Who satisfieth thine old age with good things:
So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle.

6 The LORD executeth righteousness,
And acts of justice for all that are oppressed.
7 He made known His ways unto Moses,
His doings unto the children of Israel.
8 The LORD is full of compassion and gracious,
Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
9 He will not always contend;
Neither will He keep his anger for ever.
10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins,
Nor requited us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heaven is high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward them that fear Him.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
So far hath He removed our transgressions from us.
13 Like as a father hath compassion upon his children,
So hath the LORD compassion upon them that fear Him.
14 For He knoweth our frame;
He remembereth that we are dust.
15 As for man, his days are as grass;
As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.
16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone;
And the place thereof knoweth it no more.
17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him,
And His righteousness unto children's children;
18 To such as keep His covenant,
And to those that remember His precepts to do them.

19 The LORD hath established His throne in the heavens;
And His kingdom ruleth over all.
20 Bless the LORD, ye angels of His,
Ye mighty in strength, that fulfil His word,
Hearkening unto the voice of His word.
21 Bless the LORD, all ye His hosts;
Ye ministers of His, that do His pleasure.
22 Bless the LORD, all ye His works,
In all places of His dominion;
Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Men in God's World

104 Bless the LORD, O my soul.
O LORD my God, Thou art very great;
Thou art clothed with glory and majesty.
2 Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment,
Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain;
3 Who layest the beams of Thine upper chambers in the waters,
Who makest the clouds Thy chariot,
Who walkest upon the wings of the wind;
4 Who makest winds Thy messengers,
The flaming fire Thy ministers.

5 Who didst establish the earth upon its foundations,
That it should not be moved for ever and ever;
6 Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a vesture;
The waters stood above the mountains.
7 At Thy rebuke they fled,
At the voice of Thy thunder they hasted away—
8 The mountains rose, the valleys sank down—
Unto the place which Thou hadst founded for them;
9 Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass over,
That they might not return to cover the earth.

10 Who sendest forth springs into the valleys;
They run between the mountains;

11 They give drink to every beast of the field,
The wild asses quench their thirst.
12 Beside them dwell the fowl of the heaven,
From among the branches they sing.
13 Who waterest the mountains from Thine upper chambers;
The earth is full of the fruit of Thy works.

14 Who causest the grass to spring up for the cattle,
And herb for the service of man;
To bring forth bread out of the earth,
15 And wine that maketh glad the heart of man,
Making the face brighter than oil,
And bread that stayeth man's heart.
16 The trees of the LORD have their fill,
The cedars of Lebanon, which He hath planted;
17 Wherein the birds make their nests;
As for the stork, the fir-trees are her house.
18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;
The rocks are a refuge for the conies.

19 Who appointedst the moon for seasons;
The sun knoweth his going down.
20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night,
Wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.
21 The young lions roar after their prey,
And seek their food from God.
22 The sun ariseth, they slink away,
And couch in their dens.
23 Man goeth forth unto his work
And to his labour until the evening.

24 How manifold are Thy works, O LORD!
In wisdom hast Thou made them all;
The earth is full of Thy creatures.
25 Yonder sea, great and wide,
Therein are creeping things innumerable,
Living creatures, both small and great.
26 There go the ships;
There is leviathan, whom Thou hast formed
to sport therein.
27 All of them wait for Thee,
That Thou mayest give them their food in
due season.
28 Thou givest it unto them, they gather it;
Thou openest Thy hand, they are satisfied
with good.
29 Thou hidest Thy face, they vanish;
Thou withdrawest their breath, they perish,
And return to their dust.
30 Thou sendest forth Thy spirit, they are cre-
ated;
And Thou renewest the face of the earth.

31 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever;
Let the LORD rejoice in His works!
32 Who looketh on the earth, and it trembleth;
He toucheth the mountains, and they smoke.
33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have any
being.
34 Let my musing be sweet unto Him;
As for me, I will rejoice in the LORD.
35 Let sinners cease out of the earth,
And let the wicked be no more.
Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah.

Psalm of Rescue

107 'O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good,
For His mercy endureth for ever.'
2 So let the redeemed of the LORD say,
Whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the adversary;
3 And gathered them out of the lands,
From the east and from the west,
From the north and from the sea.

4 They wandered in the wilderness in a desert way;
They found no city of habitation.
5 Hungry and thirsty,
Their soul fainted in them.
6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble,
And He delivered them out of their distresses.
7 And He led them by a straight way,
That they might go to a city of habitation.
8 Let them give thanks unto the LORD for His mercy,
And for His wonderful works to the children of men!
9 For He hath satisfied the longing soul,
And the hungry soul He hath filled with good.

10 Such as sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
Being bound in affliction and iron—

11 Because they rebelled against the words of God,
And contemned the counsel of the Most High.
12 Therefore He humbled their heart with travail,
They stumbled, and there was none to help—
13 They cried unto the LORD in their trouble,
And He saved them out of their distresses.
14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
And broke their bands in sunder.
15 Let them give thanks unto the LORD for His mercy,
And for His wonderful works to the children of men!
16 For He hath broken the gates of brass,
And cut the bars of iron in sunder.

17 Crazed because of the way of their transgression,
And afflicted because of their iniquities—
18 Their soul abhorred all manner of food,
And they drew near unto the gates of death—
19 They cried unto the LORD in their trouble,
And He saved them out of their distresses;
20 He sent His word, and healed them,
And delivered them from their graves.
21 Let them give thanks unto the LORD for His mercy,
And for His wonderful works to the children of men!
22 And let them offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And declare His works with singing.

23 They that go down to the sea in ships,
That do business in great waters—
24 These saw the works of the LORD,
And His wonders in the deep;
25 For He commanded, and raised the stormy wind,
Which lifted up the waves thereof;
26 They mounted up to the heaven, they went down to the deeps;
Their soul melted away because of trouble;
27 They reeled to and fro, and staggered like a drunken man,
And all their wisdom was swallowed up—
28 They cried unto the LORD in their trouble,
And He brought them out of their distresses.
29 He made the storm a calm,
So that the waves thereof were still.
30 Then were they glad because they were quiet,
And He led them unto their desired haven.
31 Let them give thanks unto the LORD for His mercy,
And for His wonderful works to the children of men!
32 Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people,
And praise Him in the seat of the elders.
33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness,
And watersprings into a thirsty ground;
34 A fruitful land into a salt waste,
For the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

35 He turneth a wilderness into a pool of water,
And a dry land into watersprings.
36 And there He maketh the hungry to dwell,
And they establish a city of habitation;

37 And sow fields, and plant vineyards,
Which yield fruits of increase.
38 He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly,
And suffereth not their cattle to decrease.

39 Again, they are minished and dwindle away
Through oppression of evil and sorrow.
40 He poureth contempt upon princes,
And causeth them to wander in the waste where there is no way.
41 Yet setteth He the needy on high from affliction,
And maketh his families like a flock.
42 The upright see it, and are glad;
And all iniquity stoppeth her mouth.

43 Whoso is wise, let him observe these things,
And let them consider the mercies of the LORD.

Psalms of Thanksgiving

111 Hallelujah.
I will give thanks unto the LORD with my whole heart,
In the council of the upright, and in the congregation.
2 The works of the LORD are great,
Sought out of all them that have delight therein.
3 His work is glory and majesty;
And His righteousness endureth for ever.
4 He hath made a memorial for His wonderful works;

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.
5 He hath given food unto them that fear Him;
He will ever be mindful of His covenant.
6 He hath declared to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.
7 The works of His hands are truth and justice;
All His precepts are sure.
8 They are established for ever and ever,
They are done in truth and uprightness.
9 He hath sent redemption unto His people;
He hath commanded His covenant for ever;
Holy and awful is His name.
10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all they that do thereafter;
His praise endureth for ever.

112 Hallelujah.
Happy is the man that feareth the LORD,
That delighteth greatly in His commandments.
2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth;
The generation of the upright shall be blessed.
3 Wealth and riches are in his house;
And his merit endureth for ever.
4 Unto the upright He shineth as a light in the darkness,
Gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

5 Well is it with the man that dealeth graciously and lendeth,
That ordereth his affairs rightfully.
6 For he shall never be moved;
The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.
7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings;
His heart is stedfast, trusting in the LORD.
8 His heart is established, he shall not be afraid,
Until he gaze upon his adversaries.
9 He hath scattered abroad, he hath given to the needy;
His righteousness endureth for ever;
His horn shall be exalted in honour.
10 The wicked shall see, and be vexed;
He shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away;
The desire of the wicked shall perish.

113 Hallelujah.
Praise, O ye servants of the LORD,
Praise the name of the LORD.
2 Blessed be the name of the LORD
From this time forth and for ever.
3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof
The LORD's name is to be praised.

4 The LORD is high above all nations,
His glory is above the heavens.
5 Who is like unto the LORD our God,
That is enthroned on high,
6 That looketh down low
Upon heaven and upon the earth?

7 Who raiseth up the poor out of the dust,
And lifteth up the needy out of the dunghill;
8 That He may set him with princes,
Even with the princes of His people.
9 Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in her house
As a joyful mother of children.
Hallelujah.

114 When Israel came forth out of Egypt,
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language;
2 Judah became His sanctuary,
Israel His dominion.

3 The sea saw it, and fled;
The Jordan turned backward.
4 The mountains skipped like rams,
The hills like young sheep.

5 What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleest?
Thou Jordan, that thou turnest backward?
6 Ye mountains, that ye skip like rams;
Ye hills, like young sheep?

7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord,
At the presence of the God of Jacob;
8 Who turned the rock into a pool of water,
The flint into a fountain of waters.

115 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us,
But unto Thy name give glory,
For Thy mercy, and for Thy truth's sake.

2 Wherefore should the nations say:
'Where is now their God?'

3 But our God is in the heavens;
Whatsoever pleased Him He hath done.
4 Their idols are silver and gold,
The work of men's hands.
5 They have mouths, but they speak not;
Eyes have they, but they see not;
6 They have ears, but they hear not;
Noses have they, but they smell not;
7 They have hands, but they handle not;
Feet have they, but they walk not;
Neither speak they with their throat.
8 They that make them shall be like unto them;
Yea, every one that trusteth in them.

9 O Israel, trust thou in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield!
10 O house of Aaron, trust ye in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield!
11 Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

12 The LORD hath been mindful of us, He will bless—
He will bless the house of Israel;
He will bless the house of Aaron.
13 He will bless them that fear the LORD,
Both small and great.
14 The LORD increase you more and more,
You and your children.
15 Blessed be ye of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

16 The heavens are the heavens of the LORD;
But the earth hath He given to the children
of men.
17 The dead praise not the LORD,
Neither any that go down into silence;
18 But we will bless the LORD
From this time forth and for ever.
Hallelujah.

116 I love that the LORD should hear
My voice and my supplications.
2 Because He hath inclined His ear unto me,
Therefore will I call upon Him all my days.

3 The cords of death compassed me,
And the straits of the nether-world got hold
upon me;
I found trouble and sorrow.
4 But I called upon the name of the LORD:
'I beseech Thee, O LORD, deliver my soul.'
5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yea, our God is compassionate.
6 The LORD preserveth the simple;
I was brought low, and He saved me.

7 Return, O my soul, unto thy rest;
For the LORD hath dealt bountifully with
thee.
8 For Thou hast delivered my soul from
death,
Mine eyes from tears,
And my feet from stumbling.
9 I shall walk before the LORD
In the lands of the living.
10 I trusted even when I spoke:

'I am greatly afflicted.'
11 I said in my haste:
'All men are liars.'

12 How can I repay unto the LORD
All His bountiful dealings toward me?
13 I will lift up the cup of salvation,
And call upon the name of the LORD.
14 My vows will I pay unto the LORD,
Yea, in the presence of all His people.

15 Precious in the sight of the LORD
Is the death of His saints.
16 I beseech Thee, O LORD, for I am Thy servant;
I am Thy servant, the son of Thy handmaid;
Thou hast loosed my bands.
17 I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
And will call upon the name of the LORD.
18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD,
Yea, in the presence of all His people;
19 In the courts of the LORD's house,
In the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah.

117 O praise the LORD, all ye nations;
Laud Him, all ye peoples.
2 For His mercy is great toward us;
And the truth of the LORD endureth for ever.
Hallelujah.

118 'O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good,

For His mercy endureth for ever.'
2 So let Israel now say,
For His mercy endureth for ever.
3 So let the house of Aaron now say,
For His mercy endureth for ever.
4 So let them now that fear the LORD say,
For His mercy endureth for ever.

5 Out of my straits I called upon the LORD:
He answered me with great enlargement.
6 The LORD is for me; I will not fear;
What can man do unto me?
7 The LORD is for me as my helper;
And I shall gaze upon them that hate me.
8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD
Than to trust in man.
9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD
Than to trust in princes.
10 All nations compass me about;
Verily, in the name of the LORD I will cut them off.
11 They compass me about, yea, they compass me about;
Verily, in the name of the LORD I will cut them off.
12 They compass me about like bees;
They are quenched as the fire of thorns;
Verily, in the name of the LORD I will cut them off.
13 Thou didst thrust sore at me that I might fall;
But the LORD helped me.
14 The LORD is my strength and song;
And He is become my salvation.

15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous;
The right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted;
The right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
17 I shall not die, but live,
And declare the works of the LORD.
18 The LORD hath chastened me sore;
But He hath not given me over unto death.
19 Open to me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter into them, I will give thanks unto the LORD.
20 This is the gate of the LORD;
The righteous shall enter into it.
21 I will give thanks unto Thee, for Thou hast answered me,
And art become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected
Is become the chief corner-stone.

23 This is the LORD's doing;
It is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day which the LORD hath made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 We beseech Thee, O LORD, save now!
We beseech Thee, O LORD, make us now to prosper!

26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD;
We bless you out of the house of the LORD.

27 The LORD is God, and hath given us light;

Order the festival procession with boughs,
even unto the horns of the altar.

28 Thou art my God, and I will give thanks unto Thee;
Thou art my God, I will exalt Thee.

29 O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good,
For His mercy endureth for ever.

The Law of God

119 9 Wherewithal shall a young man keep his way pure?
By taking heed thereto according to Thy word.
10 With my whole heart have I sought Thee;
O let me not err from Thy commandments.
11 Thy word have I laid up in my heart,
That I might not sin against Thee.
12 Blessed art Thou, O LORD;
Teach me Thy statutes.
13 With my lips have I told
All the ordinances of Thy mouth.
14 I have rejoiced in the way of Thy testimonies,
As much as in all riches.
15 I will meditate in Thy precepts,
And have respect unto Thy ways.
16 I will delight myself in Thy statutes;
I will not forget Thy word.

Marching Songs of the Pilgrims

120 A Song of Ascents.
In my distress I called unto the LORD,

And He answered me.
2 O LORD, deliver my soul from lying lips,
From a deceitful tongue.
3 What shall be given unto thee, and what
shall be done more unto thee,
Thou deceitful tongue?
4 Sharp arrows of the mighty,
With coals of broom.

5 Woe is me, that I sojourn with Meshech,
That I dwell beside the tents of Kedar!
6 My soul hath full long had her dwelling
With him that hateth peace.
7 I am all peace;
But when I speak, they are for war.

121

A Song of Ascents.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains:
From whence shall my help come?
2 My help cometh from the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
4 Behold, He that keepeth Israel
Doth neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The LORD is thy keeper;
The LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.
6 The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD shall keep thee from all evil;
He shall keep thy soul.

8 The LORD shall guard thy going out and thy coming in,
From this time forth and for ever.

122

A Song of Ascents; of David.

I rejoiced when they said unto me:
'Let us go unto the house of the LORD.'
2 Our feet are standing
Within thy gates, O Jerusalem;
3 Jerusalem, that art builded
As a city that is compact together;
4 Whither the tribes went up, even the tribes of the LORD,
As a testimony unto Israel,
To give thanks unto the name of the LORD.
5 For there were set thrones for judgment,
The thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem;
May they prosper that love thee.
7 Peace be within thy walls,
And prosperity within thy palaces.
8 For my brethren and companions' sakes,
I will now say: 'Peace be within thee.'
9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God
I will seek thy good.

123

A Song of Ascents.

Unto Thee I lift up mine eyes,
O Thou that art enthroned in the heavens.
2 Behold, as the eyes of servants unto the hand of their master,

As the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of
her mistress;
So our eyes look unto the LORD our God,
Until He be gracious unto us.

3 Be gracious unto us, O LORD, be gracious
unto us;
For we are full sated with contempt.
4 Our soul is full sated
With the scorning of those that are at ease,
And with the contempt of the proud oppres-
sors.

124 A Song of Ascents; of David.

'If it had not been the LORD who was for
us',
Let Israel now say;
2 'If it had not been the LORD who was for us,
When men rose up against us,
3 Then they had swallowed us up alive,
When their wrath was kindled against us;
4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us,
The stream had gone over our soul;
5 Then the proud waters
Had gone over our soul.'

6 Blessed be the LORD,
Who hath not given us as a prey to their
teeth.
7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the
snare of the fowlers;
The snare is broken, and we are escaped.
8 Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

125 A Song of Ascents.

They that trust in the LORD
Are as mount Zion, which cannot be moved,
but abideth for ever.
2 As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
So the LORD is round about His people,
From this time forth and for ever.

3 For the rod of wickedness shall not rest
upon the lot of the righteous;
That the righteous put not forth their hands
unto iniquity.

4 Do good, O LORD, unto the good,
And to them that are upright in their
hearts.
5 But as for such as turn aside unto their
crooked ways,
The LORD will lead them away with the
workers of iniquity.
Peace be upon Israel.

126 A Song of Ascents.

When the LORD brought back those that returned to Zion,
We were like unto them that dream.
2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
And our tongue with singing;
Then said they among the nations:
'The LORD hath done great things with
these.'
3 The LORD hath done great things with us;
We are rejoiced.

4 Turn our captivity, O LORD,
As the streams in the dry land.
5 They that sow in tears
Shall reap in joy.
6 Though he goeth on his way weeping that
bareth the measure of seed,
He shall come home with joy, bearing his
sheaves.

127

A Song of Ascents; of Solomon.

Except the LORD build the house,
They labour in vain that build it;
Except the LORD keep the city,
The watchman waketh but in vain.
2 It is vain for you that ye rise early, and sit
up late,
Ye that eat the bread of toil;
So He giveth unto His beloved in sleep.

3 Lo, children are a heritage of the LORD;
The fruit of the womb is a reward.
4 As arrows in the hand of a mighty man,
So are the children of one's youth.
5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full
of them;
They shall not be put to shame,
When they speak with their enemies in the
gate.

128

A Song of Ascents.

Happy is every one that feareth the LORD,
That walketh in His ways.
2 When thou eatest the labour of thy hands,

Happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well
with thee.
3 Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine, in the
innermost parts of thy house;
Thy children like olive plants, round about
thy table.
4 Behold, surely thus shall the man be blessed
That feareth the LORD.

5 The LORD bless thee out of Zion;
And see thou the good of Jerusalem all the
days of thy life;
6 And see thy children's children.
Peace be upon Israel!

129 A Song of Ascents.

'Much have they afflicted me from my youth
up',
Let Israel now say;
2 'Much have they afflicted me from my youth
up;
But they have not prevailed against me.
3 The plowers plowed upon my back;
They made long their furrows.
4 The LORD is righteous;
He hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.'

5 Let them be ashamed and turned backward,
All they that hate Zion.
6 Let them be as the grass upon the house-
tops,
Which withereth afore it springeth up;
7 Wherewith the reaper filleth not his hand,
Nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom;

8 Neither do they that go by say:
'The blessing of the LORD be upon you;
We bless you in the name of the LORD.'

130 A Song of Ascents.

Out of the depths have I called Thee, O LORD.
2 Lord, hearken unto my voice;
Let Thine ears be attentive
To the voice of my supplications.
3 If Thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
4 For with Thee there is forgiveness,
That Thou mayest be feared.
5 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait,
And in His word do I hope.
6 My soul waiteth for the Lord,
More than watchmen for the morning;
Yea, more than watchmen for the morning.
7 O Israel, hope in the LORD;
For with the LORD there is mercy,
And with Him is plenteous redemption.
8 And He will redeem Israel
From all his iniquities.

131 A Song of Ascents; of David.

LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty;
Neither do I exercise myself in things too great, or in things too wonderful for me.
2 Surely I have stilled and quieted my soul;
Like a weaned child with his mother,
My soul is with me like a weaned child.

3 O Israel, hope in the LORD
From this time forth and for ever.

132 A Song of Ascents.

LORD, remember unto David
All his affliction;
2 How he swore unto the LORD,
And vowed unto the Mighty One of Jacob:
3 'Surely I will not come into the tent of my house,
Nor go up into the bed that is spread for me;
4 I will not give sleep to mine eyes,
Nor slumber to mine eyelids;
5 Until I find out a place for the LORD,
A dwelling-place for the Mighty One of Jacob.'

6 Lo, we heard of it as being in Ephrath;
We found it in the field of the wood.
7 Let us go into His dwelling place;
Let us worship at His footstool.
8 Arise, O LORD, unto Thy resting-place;
Thou, and the ark of Thy strength.
9 Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness;
And let Thy saints shout for joy.
10 For Thy servant David's sake
Turn not away the face of Thine anointed.

11 The LORD swore unto David in truth;
He will not turn back from it:
'Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.
12 If thy children keep My covenant
And My testimony that I shall teach them,

Their children also for ever shall sit upon
thy throne.'
13 For the LORD hath chosen Zion;
He hath desired it for His habitation:
14 'This is My resting-place for ever;
Here will I dwell; for I have desired it.
15 I will abundantly bless her provision;
I will give her needy bread in plenty.
16 Her priests also will I clothe with salvation;
And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.
17 There will I make a horn to shoot up unto
David,
There have I ordered a lamp for Mine
anointed.
18 His enemies will I clothe with shame;
But upon himself shall his crown shine.'

133 A Song of Ascents; of David.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell together in unity!
2 It is like the precious oil upon the head,
Coming down upon the beard;
Even Aaron's beard,
That cometh down upon the collar of his
garments;
3 Like the dew of Hermon,
That cometh down upon the mountains of
Zion;
For there the LORD commanded the blessing,
Even life for ever.

134 A Song of Ascents.

Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of
the LORD,

That stand in the house of the LORD in the
night seasons.
2 Lift up your hands to the sanctuary,
And bless ye the LORD.

3 The LORD bless thee out of Zion;
Even He that made heaven and earth.

Song of Zion

137 By the rivers of Babylon,
There we sat down, yea, we wept,
When we remembered Zion.
2 Upon the willows in the midst thereof
We hanged up our harps.
3 For there they that led us captive asked of
us words of song,
And our tormentors asked of us mirth:
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.'
4 How shall we sing the LORD's song
In a foreign land?
5 If I forget thee, O Jerusalem,
Let my right hand forget her cunning.
6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my
mouth,
If I remember thee not;
If I set not Jerusalem
Above my chiefest joy.

God Is Everywhere

139 For the Leader. A Psalm of David.
O LORD, Thou hast searched me, and known
me.

2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising,
Thou understandest my thought afar off.
3 Thou measurest my going about and my lying down,
And art acquainted with all my ways.
4 For there is not a word in my tongue,
But, lo, O LORD, Thou knowest it altogether.
5 Thou hast hemmed me in behind and before,
And laid Thy hand upon me.
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
Too high, I cannot attain unto it.

7 Whither shall I go from Thy spirit?
Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?
8 If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there;
If I make my bed in the nether-world, behold, Thou art there.
9 If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
10 Even there would Thy hand lead me,
And Thy right hand would hold me.
11 And if I say: 'Surely the darkness shall envelop me,
And the light about me shall be night';
12 Even the darkness is not too dark for Thee,
But the night shineth as the day;
The darkness is even as the light.

In the Cave

142 Maschil of David, when he was in the cave; a Prayer.

2 With my voice I cry unto the LORD;
With my voice I make supplication unto the LORD.
3 I pour out my complaint before Him,
I declare before Him my trouble;
4 When my spirit fainteth within me—
Thou knowest my path—
In the way wherein I walk
Have they hidden a snare for me.
5 Look on my right hand, and see,
For there is no man that knoweth me;
I have no way to flee;
No man careth for my soul.

6 I have cried unto Thee, O LORD;
I have said: 'Thou art my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.'
7 Attend unto my cry;
For I am brought very low;
Deliver me from my persecutors;
For they are too strong for me.
8 Bring my soul out of prison,
That I may give thanks unto Thy name;
The righteous shall crown themselves because of me;
For Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

A Plea for Deliverance

143 A Psalm of David.

O LORD, hear my prayer, give ear to my supplications;
In Thy faithfulness answer me, and in Thy righteousness.

2 And enter not into judgment with Thy servant;
For in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul;
He hath crushed my life down to the ground;
He hath made me to dwell in dark places,
as those that have been long dead.
4 And my spirit fainteth within me;
My heart within me is appalled.

5 I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all Thy doing;
I muse on the work of Thy hands.
6 I spread forth my hands unto Thee;
My soul [thirsteth] after Thee, as a weary land. Selah

7 Answer me speedily, O LORD,
My spirit faileth;
Hide not Thy face from me;
Lest I become like them that go down into the pit.
8 Cause me to hear Thy lovingkindness in the morning,
For in Thee do I trust;
Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk,
For unto Thee have I lifted up my soul.

9 Deliver me from mine enemies, O LORD;
With Thee have I hidden myself.
10 Teach me to do Thy will,
For Thou art my God;
Let Thy good spirit

Lead me in an even land.
11 For Thy name's sake, O LORD, quicken me;
In Thy righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.
12 And in Thy mercy cut off mine enemies,
And destroy all them that harass my soul;
For I am Thy servant.

Against the Treacherous

144

[A Psalm] of David.

Blessed be the LORD my Rock,
Who traineth my hands for war,
And my fingers for battle;
2 My lovingkindness, and my fortress,
My high tower, and my deliverer;
My shield, and He in whom I take refuge;
Who subdueth my people under me.

3 LORD, what is man, that Thou takest knowledge of him?
Or the son of man, that Thou makest account of him?
4 Man is like unto a breath;
His days are as a shadow that passeth away.
5 O LORD, bow Thy heavens, and come down;
Touch the mountains, that they may smoke.
6 Cast forth lightning, and scatter them;
Send out Thine arrows, and discomfit them.
7 Stretch forth Thy hands from on high;
Rescue me, and deliver me out of many waters,
Out of the hand of strangers;
8 Whose mouth speaketh falsehood,

And their right hand is a right hand of lying.

9 O God, I will sing a new song unto Thee,
Upon a psaltery of ten strings will I sing praises unto Thee;
10 Who givest salvation unto kings,
Who rescuest David Thy servant from the hurtful sword.
11 Rescue me, and deliver me out of the hand of strangers,
Whose mouth speaketh falsehood,
And their right hand is a right hand of lying.

12 We whose sons are as plants grown up in their youth;
Whose daughters are as corner-pillars carved after the fashion of a palace;
13 Whose garners are full, affording all manner of store;
Whose sheep increase by thousands and ten thousands in our fields;
14 Whose oxen are well laden;
With no breach, and no going forth,
And no outcry in our broad places;
15 Happy is the people that is in such a case.
Yea, happy is the people whose God is the LORD.

Psalms of Adoration

145 [A Psalm of] praise; of David.

I will extol Thee, my God, O King;

And I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.
2 Every day will I bless Thee;
And I will praise Thy name for ever and ever.
3 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised;
And His greatness is unsearchable.
4 One generation shall laud Thy works to another,
And shall declare Thy mighty acts.
5 The glorious splendour of Thy majesty,
And Thy wondrous works, will I rehearse.
6 And men shall speak of the might of Thy tremendous acts;
And I will tell of Thy greatness.
7 They shall utter the fame of Thy great goodness,
And shall sing of Thy righteousness.
8 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion:
Slow to anger, and of great mercy.
9 The LORD is good to all;
And His tender mercies are over all His works.
10 All Thy works shall praise Thee, O LORD;
And Thy saints shall bless Thee.
11 They shall speak of the glory of Thy kingdom,
And talk of Thy might;
12 To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts,
And the glory of the majesty of His kingdom.
13 Thy kingdom is a kingdom for all ages,
And Thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

14 The LORD upholdeth all that fall,
And raiseth up all those that are bowed down.
15 The eyes of all wait for Thee,
And Thou givest them their food in due season.
16 Thou openest Thy hand,
And satisfiest every living thing with favour.
17 The LORD is righteous in all His ways,
And gracious in all His works.
18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon Him,
To all that call upon Him in truth.
19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him;
He also will hear their cry, and will save them.
20 The LORD preserveth all them that love Him;
But all the wicked will He destroy.
21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
And let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever.

146 Hallelujah.
Praise the LORD, O my soul.
2 I will praise the LORD while I live;
I will sing praises unto my God while I have my being.

3 Put not your trust in princes,
Nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his dust;
In that very day his thoughts perish.
5 Happy is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the LORD his God,
6 Who made heaven and earth,
The sea, and all that in them is;
Who keepeth truth for ever;
7 Who executeth justice for the oppressed;
Who giveth bread to the hungry.

The LORD looseth the prisoners;
8 The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind;
The LORD raiseth up them that are bowed down;
The LORD loveth the righteous;
9 The LORD preserveth the strangers;
He upholdeth the fatherless and the widow;
But the way of the wicked He maketh crooked.
10 The LORD will reign for ever,
Thy God, O Zion, unto all generations.
Hallelujah.

147 Hallelujah;
For it is good to sing praises unto our God;
For it is pleasant, and praise is comely.
2 The LORD doth build up Jerusalem,
He gathereth together the dispersed of Israel;
3 Who healeth the broken in heart,
And bindeth up their wounds.
4 He counteth the number of the stars;

He giveth them all their names.
5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power;
His understanding is infinite.
6 The LORD upholdeth the humble;
He bringeth the wicked down to the ground.
7 Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving,
Sing praises upon the harp unto our God;
8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds,
Who prepareth rain for the earth,
Who maketh the mountains to spring with grass.
9 He giveth to the beast his food,
And to the young ravens which cry.
10 He delighteth not in the strength of the horse;
He taketh no pleasure in the legs of a man.
11 The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear Him,
In those that wait for His mercy.

12 Glorify the LORD, O Jerusalem;
Praise thy God, O Zion.
13 For He hath made strong the bars of thy gates;
He hath blessed thy children within thee.
14 He maketh thy borders peace;
He giveth thee in plenty the fat of wheat.
15 He sendeth out His commandment upon earth;
His word runneth very swiftly.
16 He giveth snow like wool;
He scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.
17 He casteth forth His ice like crumbs;
Who can stand before His cold?

18 He sendeth forth His word, and melteth them;
He causeth His wind to blow, and the waters flow.
19 He declareth His word unto Jacob,
His statutes and His ordinances unto Israel.
20 He hath not dealt so with any nation;
And as for His ordinances, they have not known them.
Hallelujah.

148 Hallelujah.
Praise ye the LORD from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights.
2 Praise ye Him, all His angels;
Praise ye Him, all His hosts.
3 Praise ye Him, sun and moon;
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.
4 Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens,
And ye waters that are above the heavens.
5 Let them praise the name of the LORD;
For He commanded, and they were created.
6 He hath also established them for ever and ever;
He hath made a decree which shall not be transgressed.

7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
Ye sea-monsters, and all deeps;
8 Fire and hail, snow and vapour,
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
9 Mountains and all hills,
Fruitful trees and all cedars;
10 Beasts and all cattle,
Creeping things and winged fowl;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
Princes and all judges of the earth;
12 Both young men and maidens,
Old men and children;
13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For His name alone is exalted;
His glory is above the earth and heaven.
14 And He hath lifted up a horn for His people,
A praise for all His saints,
Even for the children of Israel, a people near unto Him.
Hallelujah.

149 Hallelujah.
Sing unto the LORD a new song,
And His praise in the assembly of the saints.
2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker;
Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
3 Let them praise His name in the dance;
Let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and harp.
4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in His people;
He adorneth the humble with salvation

5 Let the saints exult in glory;
Let them sing for joy upon their beds.
6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth,
And a two-edged sword in their hand;
7 To execute vengeance upon the nations,
And chastisements upon the peoples;
8 To bind their kings with chains,
And their nobles with fetters of iron;

9 To execute upon them the judgment written;
He is the glory of all His saints.
Hallelujah.

A Symphony of Praise

150 Hallelujah.
Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise Him in the firmament of His power.
2 Praise Him for His mighty acts;
Praise Him according to His abundant greatness.
3 Praise Him with the blast of the horn;
Praise Him with the psaltery and harp.
4 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;
Praise Him with stringed instruments and the pipe.
5 Praise Him with the loud-sounding cymbals;
Praise Him with the clanging cymbals.
6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD.
Hallelujah.

PROVERBS

1 7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
But the foolish despise wisdom and discipline.

8 Hear, my son, the instruction of thy father,

And forsake not the teaching of thy mother;
9 For they shall be a chaplet of grace unto thy head,
And chains about thy neck.

10 My son, if sinners entice thee,
Consent thou not.
11 If they say: 'Come with us,
Let us lie in wait for blood,
Let us lurk for the innocent without cause;
12 Let us swallow them up alive as the grave,
And whole, as those that go down into the pit;
13 We shall find all precious substance,
We shall fill our houses with spoil;
14 Cast in thy lot among us;
Let us all have one purse'—
15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them,
Restrain thy foot from their path;
16 For their feet run to evil,
And they make haste to shed blood.
17 For in vain the net is spread
In the eyes of any bird;
18 And these lie in wait for their own blood,
They lurk for their own lives.
19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain;
It taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

5 My son, attend unto my wisdom;
Incline thine ear to my understanding;
2 That thou mayest preserve discretion,
And that thy lips may keep knowledge.
3 For the lips of a strange woman drop honey,

And her mouth is smoother than oil;
4 But her end is bitter as wormwood,
Sharp as a two-edged sword.
5 Her feet go down to death;
Her steps take hold on the nether-world;
6 Lest she should walk the even path of life,
Her ways wander, but she knoweth it not.

7 Now therefore, O ye children, hearken unto me,
And depart not from the words of my mouth.
8 Remove thy way far from her,
And come not nigh the door of her house;
9 Lest thou give thy vigour unto others,
And thy years unto the cruel;
10 Lest strangers be filled with thy strength,
And thy labours be in the house of an alien;
11 And thou moan, when thine end cometh,
When thy flesh and thy body are consumed,
12 And say: 'How have I hated instruction,
And my heart despised reproof;
13 Neither have I hearkened to the voice of my teachers,
Nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!
14 I was well nigh in all evil
In the midst of the congregation and assembly.'

15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern,
And running waters out of thine own well.
16 Let thy springs be dispersed abroad,
And courses of water in the streets.
17 Let them be only thine own,

And not strangers' with thee.
18 Let thy fountain be blessed;
And have joy of the wife of thy youth.
19 A lovely hind and a graceful doe,
Let her breasts satisfy thee at all times;
With her love be thou ravished always.
20 Why then wilt thou, my son, be ravished
with a strange woman,
And embrace the bosom of an alien?

21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of
the LORD,
And He maketh even all his paths.
22 His own iniquities shall ensnare the wicked,
And he shall be holden with the cords of
his sin.
23 He shall die for lack of instruction;
And in the greatness of his folly he shall
reel.

6 6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard;
Consider her ways, and be wise;
7 Which having no chief,
Overseer, or ruler,
8 Provideth her bread in the summer,
And gathereth her food in the harvest.
9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard?
When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?
10 'Yet a little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to sleep'—
11 So shall thy poverty come as a runner,
And thy want as an armed man.

12 A base person, a man of iniquity,
Is he that walketh with a froward mouth;

13 That winketh with his eyes, that scrapeth with his feet,
That pointeth with his fingers;
14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth evil continually;
He soweth discord.
15 Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly;
On a sudden shall he be broken, and that without remedy.

16 There are six things which the LORD hateth,
Yea, seven which are an abomination unto Him:
17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
And hands that shed innocent blood;
18 A heart that deviseth wicked thoughts,
Feet that are swift in running to evil;
19 A false witness that breatheth out lies,
And he that soweth discord among brethren.

20 My son, keep the commandment of thy father,
And forsake not the teaching of thy mother;
21 Bind them continually upon thy heart,
Tie them about thy neck.
22 When thou walkest, it shall lead thee,
When thou liest down, it shall watch over thee;
And when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.
23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the teaching is light,
And reproofs of instruction are the way of life;
24 To keep thee from the evil woman,
From the smoothness of the alien tongue.

25 Lust not after her beauty in thy heart;
Neither let her captivate thee with her eyelids.
26 For on account of a harlot a man is brought to a loaf of bread,
But the adulteress hunteth for the precious life.
27 Can a man take fire in his bosom,
And his clothes not be burned?
28 Or can one walk upon hot coals,
And his feet not be scorched?
29 So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife;
Whosoever toucheth her shall not go unpunished.
30 Men do not despise a thief, if he steal
To satisfy his soul when he is hungry;
31 But if he be found, he must restore sevenfold,
He must give all the substance of his house.

32 He that committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding;
He doeth it that would destroy his own soul.
33 Wounds and dishonour shall he get,
And his reproach shall not be wiped away.
34 For jealousy is the rage of a man,
And he will not spare in the day of vengeance.
35 He will not regard any ransom;
Neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

10 The proverbs of Solomon.

A wise son maketh a glad father;
But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing;
But righteousness delivereth from death.

3 The LORD will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish;
But He thrusteth away the desire of the wicked.

4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand;
But the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

5 A wise son gathereth in summer;
But a son that doeth shamefully sleepeth in harvest.

6 Blessings are upon the head of the righteous;
But the mouth of the wicked concealeth violence.

7 The memory of the righteous shall be for a blessing;
But the name of the wicked shall rot.

8 The wise in heart will receive commandments;
But a prating fool shall fall.

9 He that walketh uprightly walketh securely;
But he that perverteth his ways shall be found out.

10 He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow;
And a prating fool shall fall.

11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life;

But the mouth of the wicked concealeth violence.

12 Hatred stirreth up strifes;
But love covereth all transgressions.

13 In the lips of him that hath discernment wisdom is found;
But a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

14 Wise men lay up knowledge;
But the mouth of the foolish is an imminent ruin.

15 The rich man's wealth is his strong city;
The ruin of the poor is their poverty.

16 The wages of the righteous is life;
The increase of the wicked is sin.

17 He is in the way of life that heedeth instruction;
But he that forsaketh reproof erreth.

18 He that hideth hatred is of lying lips;
And he that uttereth a slander is a fool.

19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not transgression;
But he that refraineth his lips is wise.

20 The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver;
The heart of the wicked is little worth.

21 The lips of the righteous feed many;
But the foolish die for want of understanding.

22 The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich,
And toil addeth nothing thereto.

23 It is as sport to a fool to do wickedness,
And so is wisdom to a man of discernment.

24 The fear of the wicked, it shall come upon him;
And the desire of the righteous shall be granted.

25 When the whirlwind passeth, the wicked is no more;
But the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes,
So is the sluggard to them that send him.

27 The fear of the LORD prolongeth days;
But the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

28 The hope of the righteous is gladness;
But the expectation of the wicked shall perish.

29 The way of the LORD is a stronghold to the upright,
But ruin to the workers of iniquity.

30 The righteous shall never be moved;
But the wicked shall not inhabit the land.

31 The mouth of the righteous buddeth with wisdom;
But the froward tongue shall be cut off.

32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable;
But the mouth of the wicked is all frowardness.

11 A false balance is an abomination to the LORD;
But a perfect weight is His delight.

2 When pride cometh, then cometh shame;
But with the lowly is wisdom.

3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them;
But the perverseness of the faithless shall destroy them.

4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath;
But righteousness delivereth from death.

5 The righteousness of the sincere shall make straight his way;
But the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them;
But the faithless shall be trapped in their own crafty device.

7 When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish,
And the hope of strength perisheth.

8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble,
And the wicked cometh in his stead.

9 With his mouth the impious man destroyeth his neighbour;

But through knowledge shall the righteous
be delivered.

10 When it goeth well with the righteous, the
city rejoiceth;
And when the wicked perish, there is joy.

11 By the blessing of the upright a city is ex-
alted;
But it is overthrown by the mouth of the
wicked.

12 He that despiseth his neighbour lacketh un-
derstanding;
But a man of discernment holdeth his peace.

13 He that goeth about as a talebearer re-
vealeth secrets;
But he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth
a matter.

14 Where no wise direction is, a people falleth;
But in the multitude of counsellors there is
safety.

15 He that is surety for a stranger shall smart
for it;
But he that hateth them that strike hands is
secure.

16 A gracious woman obtaineth honour;
And strong men obtain riches.

17 The merciful man doeth good to his own
soul;
But he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.

18 The wicked earneth deceitful wages;
But he that soweth righteousness hath a sure
reward.

19 Stedfast righteousness tendeth to life;
But he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

20 They that are perverse in heart are an abomination to the LORD;
But such as are upright in their way are His delight.

21 My hand upon it! the evil man shall not be unpunished;
But the seed of the righteous shall escape.

22 As a ring of gold in a swine's snout,
So is a fair woman that turneth aside from discretion.

23 The desire of the righteous is only good;
But the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth;
And there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth only to want.

25 The beneficent soul shall be made rich,
And he that satisfieth abundantly shall be satisfied also himself.

26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him;
But blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

27 He that diligently seeketh good seeketh favour;
But he that searcheth for evil, it shall come unto him.

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall;
But the righteous shall flourish as foliage.

29 He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind;
And the foolish shall be servant to the wise of heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;
And he that is wise winneth souls.

31 Behold, the righteous shall be requited in the earth;
How much more the wicked and the sinner!

15 A soft answer turneth away wrath;
But a grievous word stirreth up anger.

2 The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright;
But the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place,
Keeping watch upon the evil and the good.

4 A soothing tongue is a tree of life;
But perverseness therein is a wound to the spirit.

5 A fool despiseth his father's correction;
But he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

6 In the house of the righteous is much treasure;
But in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge;
But the heart of the foolish is not stedfast.

8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD;
But the prayer of the upright is His delight.

9 The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD;
But He loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

10 There is grievous correction for him that forsaketh the way;
And he that hateth reproof shall die.

11 The nether-world and Destruction are before the LORD;
How much more then the hearts of the children of men!

12 A scorner loveth not to be reproved;
He will not go unto the wise.

13 A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance;
But by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken.

14 The heart of him that hath discernment seeketh knowledge;
But the mouth of fools feedeth on folly.

15 All the days of the poor are evil;
But he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.

16 Better is little with the fear of the LORD,
Than great treasure and turmoil therewith.

17 Better is a dinner of herbs where love is,
Than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

18 A wrathful man stirreth up discord;
But he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife.

19 The way of the sluggard is as though hedged by thorns;
But the path of the upright is even.

20 A wise son maketh a glad father;
But a foolish man despiseth his mother.

21 Folly is joy to him that lacketh understanding;
But a man of discernment walketh straightforwards.

22 For want of counsel purposes are frustrated;
But in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

23 A man hath joy in the answer of his mouth;
And a word in due season, how good is it!

24 The path of life goeth upward for the wise,
That he may depart from the nether-world beneath.

25 The LORD will pluck up the house of the proud;
But He will establish the border of the widow.

26 The thoughts of wickedness are an abomination to the LORD;
But words of pleasantness are pure.

27 He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house;
But he that hateth gifts shall live.

28 The heart of the righteous studieth to answer;

But the mouth of the wicked poureth out
evil things.

29 The LORD is far from the wicked;
But He heareth the prayer of the righteous.

30 The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart;
And a good report maketh the bones fat.

31 The ear that hearkeneth to the reproof of
life . . . . . .
Abideth among the wise.

32 He that refuseth correction despiseth his own
soul;
But he that hearkeneth to reproof getteth
understanding.

33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of
wisdom;
And before honour goeth humility.

22 A good name is rather to be chosen than
great riches,
And loving favour rather than silver and
gold.

2 The rich and the poor meet together—
The LORD is the maker of them all.

3 A prudent man seeth the evil, and hideth
himself;
But the thoughtless pass on, and are pun-
ished.

4 The reward of humility is the fear of the
LORD,
Even riches, and honour, and life.

5 Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward;
He that keepeth his soul holdeth himself far from them.

6 Train up a child in the way he should go,
And even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

7 The rich ruleth over the poor,
And the borrower is servant to the lender.

8 He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity;
And the rod of his wrath shall fail.

9 He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed;
For he giveth of his bread to the poor.

10 Cast out the scorner, and contention will go out;
Yea, strife and shame will cease.

11 He that loveth pureness of heart,
That hath grace in his lips, the king shall be his friend.

12 The eyes of the LORD preserve him that hath knowledge,
But He overthroweth the words of the faithless man.

13 The sluggard saith: 'There is a lion without;
I shall be slain in the streets.'

14 The mouth of strange women is a deep pit:
He that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein.

15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;
But the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

16 One may oppress the poor, yet will their gain increase;
One may give to the rich, yet will want come.

17 Incline thine ear, and hear the words of the wise,
And apply thy heart unto my knowledge.
18 For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee;
Let them be established altogether upon thy lips.
19 That thy trust may be in the LORD,
I have made them known to thee this day, even to thee.
20 Have not I written unto thee excellent things
Of counsels and knowledge;
21 That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth,
That thou mightest bring back words of truth to them that send thee?

22 Rob not the weak, because he is weak,
Neither crush the poor in the gate;
23 For the LORD will plead their cause,
And despoil of life those that despoil them.

24 Make no friendship with a man that is given to anger;
And with a wrathful man thou shalt not go;

25 Lest thou learn his ways,
And get a snare to thy soul.

26 Be thou not of them that strike hands,
Or of them that are sureties for debts;
27 If thou hast not wherewith to pay,
Why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

28 Remove not the ancient landmark,
Which thy fathers have set.

29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business?
he shall stand before kings;
He shall not stand before mean men.

26 As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest,
So honour is not seemly for a fool.

2 As the wandering sparrow, as the flying swallow,
So the curse that is causeless shall come home.

3 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass,
And a rod for the back of fools.

4 Answer not a fool according to his folly,
Lest thou also be like unto him.

5 Answer a fool according to his folly,
Lest he be wise in his own eyes.

6 He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool
Cutteth off his own feet, and drinketh damage.

7 The legs hang limp from the lame;
So is a parable in the mouth of fools.

8 As a small stone in a heap of stones,
So is he that giveth honour to a fool.

9 As a thorn that cometh into the hand of a drunkard,
So is a parable in the mouth of fools.

10 A master performeth all things;
But he that stoppeth a fool is as one that stoppeth a flood.

11 As a dog that returneth to his vomit,
So is a fool that repeateth his folly.

12 Seest thou a man wise in his own eyes?
There is more hope of a fool than of him.

13 The sluggard saith: 'There is a lion in the way;
Yea, a lion is in the streets.'

14 The door is turning upon its hinges,
And the sluggard is still upon his bed.

15 The sluggard burieth his hand in the dish;
It wearieth him to bring it back to his mouth.

16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes
Than seven men that give wise answer.

17 He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife not his own,
Is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

18 As a madman who casteth firebrands,
Arrows, and death;

19 So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour,
And saith: 'Am not I in sport?'

20 Where no wood is, the fire goeth out;
And where there is no whisperer, contention ceaseth.
21 As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire;
So is a contentious man to kindle strife.

22 The words of a whisperer are as dainty morsels,
And they go down into the innermost parts of the body.

23 Burning lips and a wicked heart
Are like an earthen vessel overlaid with silver dross.

24 He that hateth dissembleth with his lips,
But he layeth up deceit within him.
25 When he speaketh fair, believe him not;
For there are seven abominations in his heart.
26 Though his hatred be concealed with deceit,
His wickedness shall be revealed before the congregation.

27 Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein;
And he that rolleth a stone, it shall return upon him.

28 A lying tongue hateth those that are crushed by it;
And a flattering mouth worketh ruin.

The Good Wife

31 10 A woman of valour who can find?
For her price is far above rubies.
11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her,
And he hath no lack of gain.
12 She doeth him good and not evil
All the days of her life.
13 She seeketh wool and flax,
And worketh willingly with her hands.
14 She is like the merchant-ships;
She bringeth her food from afar.
15 She riseth also while it is yet night,
And giveth food to her household,
And a portion to her maidens.
16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it;
With the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.
17 She girdeth her loins with strength,
And maketh strong her arms.
18 She perceiveth that her merchandise is good;
Her lamp goeth not out by night.
19 She layeth her hands to the distaff,
And her hands hold the spindle.
20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor;
Yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.
21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household;
For all her household are clothed with scarlet.
22 She maketh for herself coverlets;
Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
23 Her husband is known in the gates,

When he sitteth among the elders of the land.
24 She maketh linen garments and selleth them:
And delivereth girdles unto the merchant.
25 Strength and dignity are her clothing;
And she laugheth at the time to come.
26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom;
And the law of kindness is on her tongue.
27 She looketh well to the ways of her household,
And eateth not the bread of idleness.
28 Her children rise up, and call her blessed;
Her husband also, and he praiseth her:
29 'Many daughters have done valiantly,
But thou excellest them all.'
30 Grace is deceitful, and beauty is vain;
But a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.
31 Give her of the fruit of her hands;
And let her works praise her in the gates.

JOB

The Testing of Job

1 THERE was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was whole-hearted and upright, and one that feared God, and shunned evil. 2 And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. 3 His possessions also were seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she-asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the children of the east. 4 And his sons used to go and hold a feast in the house

of each one upon his day; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and to drink with them. 5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt-offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said: 'It may be that my sons have sinned, and blasphemed God in their hearts.' Thus did Job continually.

6 Now it fell upon a day, that the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Whence comest thou?' Then Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' 8 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Hast thou considered My servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a wholehearted and an upright man, one that feareth God, and shunneth evil?' 9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'Doth Job fear God for nought? 10 Hast not Thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions are increased in the land. 11 But put forth Thy hand now, and touch all that he hath, surely he will blaspheme Thee to Thy face.' 12 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thy hand.' So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

13 And it fell on a day when his sons and his

daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house, 14 that there came a messenger unto Job, and said: 'The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them; 15 and the Sabeans made a raid, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.' 16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said: 'A fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.' 17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said: 'The Chaldeans set themselves in three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have taken them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.' 18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said: 'Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house; 19 and, behold, there came a great wind from across the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.'

20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped; 21 and he said:

Naked came I out of my mother's womb,
And naked shall I return thither;
The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away;
Blessed be the name of the LORD.

22 For all this Job sinned not, nor ascribed aught unseemly to God.

2 Again it fell upon a day, that the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. 2 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'From whence comest thou?' And Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' 3 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Hast thou considered My servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a wholehearted and an upright man, one that feareth God, and shunneth evil? and he still holdeth fast his integrity, although thou didst move Me against him, to destroy him without cause.' 4 And Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. 5 But put forth Thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, surely he will blaspheme Thee to Thy face.' 6 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Behold, he is in thy hand; only spare his life.'

7 So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot even unto his crown. 8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself therewith; and he sat among the ashes. 9 Then said his wife unto him: 'Dost thou still hold fast thine integrity? blaspheme God, and die.' 10 But he said unto her: 'Thou speakest as one of the impious women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?' For all this did not Job sin with his lips.

11 Now when Job's three friends heard of
all this evil that was come upon him, they came
every one from his own place, Eliphaz the
Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar
the Naamathite; and they made an appoint-
ment together to come to bemoan him and to
comfort him. 12 And when they lifted up their
eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up
their voice, and wept; and they rent every one
his mantle, and threw dust upon their heads
toward heaven. 13 So they sat down with him
upon the ground seven days and seven nights,
and none spoke a word unto him; for they saw
that his grief was very great.

The Fount of Wisdom

28 For there is a mine for silver,
And a place for gold which they refine.
2 Iron is taken out of the dust,
And brass is molten out of the stone.
3 Man setteth an end to darkness,
And searcheth out to the furthest bound
The stones of thick darkness and of the
shadow of death.
4 He breaketh open a shaft away from where
men sojourn;
They are forgotten of the foot that passeth
by;
They hang afar from men, they swing to and
fro.
5 As for the earth, out of it cometh bread,
And underneath it is turned up as it were
by fire.
6 The stones thereof are the place of sap-
phires,

And it hath dust of gold.
7 That path no bird of prey knoweth,
Neither hath the falcon's eye seen it;
8 The proud beasts have not trodden it,
Nor hath the lion passed thereby.
9 He putteth forth his hand upon the flinty rock;
He overturneth the mountains by the roots.
10 He cutteth out channels among the rocks;
And his eye seeth every precious thing,
11 He bindeth the streams that they trickle not;
And the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light.

12 But wisdom, where shall it be found?
And where is the place of understanding?
13 Man knoweth not the price thereof;
Neither is it found in the land of the living.
14 The deep saith: 'It is not in me';
And the sea saith: 'It is not with me.'
15 It cannot be gotten for gold,
Neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof.
16 It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir,
With the precious onyx, or the sapphire.
17 Gold and glass cannot equal it;
Neither shall the exchange thereof be vessels of fine gold.
18 No mention shall be made of coral or of crystal;
Yea, the price of wisdom is above rubies.
19 The topaz of Ethiopia shall not equal it,
Neither shall it be valued with pure gold.

20 Whence then cometh wisdom?
And where is the place of understanding?

21 Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living,
And kept close from the fowls of the air.
22 Destruction and Death say:
'We have heard a rumour thereof with our ears.'
23 God understandeth the way thereof,
And He knoweth the place thereof.
24 For He looketh to the ends of the earth,
And seeth under the whole heaven;
25 When He maketh a weight for the wind,
And meteth out the waters by measure.
26 When He made a decree for the rain,
And a way for the storm of thunders;
27 Then did He see it, and declare it;
He established it, yea, and searched it out.

28 And unto man He said:
'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom;
And to depart from evil is understanding.'

Questions Beyond Answer

38 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:
2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel
By words without knowledge?
3 Gird up now thy loins like a man;
For I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto Me.

4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?
Declare, if thou hast the understanding.
5 Who determined the measures thereof, if thou knowest?
Or who stretched the line upon it?

6 Whereupon were the foundations thereof fastened?
Or who laid the corner-stone thereof,
7 When the morning stars sang together,
And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

8 Or who shut up the sea with doors,
When it broke forth, and issued out of the womb;
9 When I made the cloud the garment thereof,
And thick darkness a swaddling-band for it,
10 And prescribed for it My decree,
And set bars and doors,
11 And said: 'Thus far shalt thou come but no further;
And here shall thy proud waves be stayed'?

12 Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days began,
And caused the dayspring to know its place;
13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth,
And the wicked be shaken out of it?
14 It is changed as clay under the seal;
And they stand as a garment.
15 But from the wicked their light is withholden,
And the high arm is broken.

16 Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea?
Or hast thou walked in the recesses of the deep?
17 Have the gates of death been revealed unto thee?
Or hast thou seen the gates of the shadow of death?

18 Hast thou surveyed unto the breadths of the earth?
Declare, if thou knowest it all.

19 Where is the way to the dwelling of light,
And as for darkness, where is the place thereof;
20 That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof,
And that thou shouldest know the paths to the house thereof?
21 Thou knowest it, for thou wast then born,
And the number of thy days is great!
22 Hast thou entered the treasuries of the snow,
Or hast thou seen the treasuries of the hail,
23 Which I have reserved against the time of trouble,
Against the day of battle and war?

24 By what way is the light parted,
Or the east wind scattered upon the earth?
25 Who hath cleft a channel for the water-flood,
Or a way for the lightning of the thunder;
26 To cause it to rain on a land where no man is,
On the wilderness, wherein there is no man;
27 To satisfy the desolate and waste ground,
And to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth?
28 Hath the rain a father?
Or who hath begotten the drops of dew?
29 Out of whose womb came the ice?
And the hoar-frost of heaven, who hath gendered it?

30 The waters are congealed like stone,
And the face of the deep is frozen.

31 Canst thou bind the chains of the Pleiades,
Or loose the bands of Orion?
32 Canst thou lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season?
Or canst thou guide the Bear with her sons?
33 Knowest thou the ordinances of the heavens?
Canst thou establish the dominion thereof in the earth?
34 Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds,
That abundance of waters may cover thee?
35 Canst thou send forth lightnings, that they may go,
And say unto thee: 'Here we are'?

36 Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts?
Or who hath given understanding to the mind?
37 Who can number the clouds by wisdom?
Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven,
38 When the dust runneth into a mass,
And the clouds cleave fast together?

39 Wilt thou hunt the prey for the lioness?
Or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
40 When they couch in their dens,
And abide in the covert to lie in wait?

41 Who provideth for the raven his prey,
When his young ones cry unto God,
And wander for lack of food?

39 Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth?
Or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve?

2 Canst thou number the months that they fulfil?
Or knowest thou the time when they bring forth?
3 They bow themselves, they bring forth their young,
They cast out their fruit.
4 Their young ones wax strong, they grow up in the open field;
They go forth, and return not again.

5 Who hath sent out the wild ass free?
Or who hath loosed the bands of the wild ass?
6 Whose house I have made the wilderness,
And the salt land his dwelling-place.
7 He scorneth the tumult of the city,
Neither heareth he the shoutings of the driver.
8 The range of the mountains is his pasture,
And he searcheth after every green thing.

9 Will the wild-ox be willing to serve thee?
Or will he abide by thy crib?
10 Canst thou bind the wild-ox with his band in the furrow?
Or will he harrow the valleys after thee?
11 Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great?
Or wilt thou leave thy labour to him?
12 Wilt thou rely on him, that he will bring home thy seed,
And gather the corn of thy threshing-floor?

13 The wing of the ostrich beateth joyously;

But are her pinions and feathers the kindly stork's?
14 For she leaveth her eggs on the earth,
And warmeth them in the dust,
15 And forgetteth that the foot may crush them,
Or that the wild beast may trample them.
16 She is hardened against her young ones, as if they were not hers;
Though her labour be in vain, she is without fear;
17 Because God hath deprived her of wisdom,
Neither hath He imparted to her understanding.
18 When the time cometh, she raiseth her wings on high,
And scorneth the horse and his rider.

19 Hast thou given the horse his strength?
Hast thou clothed his neck with fierceness?
20 Hast thou made him to leap as a locust?
The glory of his snorting is terrible.
21 He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength;
He goeth out to meet the clash of arms.
22 He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted;
Neither turneth he back from the sword.
23 The quiver rattleth upon him,
The glittering spear and the javelin.
24 He swalloweth the ground with storm and rage;
Neither believeth he that it is the voice of the horn.
25 As oft as he heareth the horn he saith: 'Ha, ha!'
And he smelleth the battle afar off,

The thunder of the captains, and the shouting.

26 Doth the hawk soar by thy wisdom,
And stretch her wings toward the south?
27 Doth the vulture mount up at thy command,
And make her nest on high?
28 She dwelleth and abideth on the rock,
Upon the crag of the rock, and the stronghold.
29 From thence she spieth out the prey;
Her eyes behold it afar off.
30 Her young ones also suck up blood;
And where the slain are, there is she.

40 Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said:
2 Shall he that reproveth contend with the Almighty?
He that argueth with God, let him answer it.

3 Then Job answered the LORD, and said:
4 Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer Thee?
I lay my hand upon my mouth.
5 Once have I spoken, but I will not answer again;
Yea, twice, but I will proceed no further.

Job's Reconciliation

42 Then Job answered the LORD, and said:
2 I know that Thou canst do every thing,
And that no purpose can be withholden from Thee.
3 Who is this that hideth counsel without knowledge?

Therefore have I uttered that which I understood not,
Things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.
4 Hear, I beseech Thee, and I will speak;
I will demand of Thee, and declare Thou unto me.
5 I had heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear;
But now mine eyes seeth Thee;
6 Wherefore I abhor my words, and repent,
Seeing I am dust and ashes.

7 And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: 'My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends; for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath. 8 Now therefore, take unto you seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt-offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you; for him will I accept, that I do not unto you aught unseemly; for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath.' 9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them; and the LORD accepted Job. 10 And the LORD changed the fortune of Job, when he prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. 11 Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house:

and they bemoaned him, and comforted him concerning all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one a ring of gold. 12 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning.

THE SONG OF SONGS

Pure Love

2 I am a rose of Sharon,
A lily of the valleys.

2 As a lily among thorns,
So is my love among the daughters.
3 As an apple-tree among the trees of the wood,
So is my beloved among the sons.
Under its shadow I delighted to sit,
And its fruit was sweet to my taste.
4 He hath brought me to the banqueting-house,
And his banner over me is love.
5 'Stay ye me with dainties, refresh me with apples;
For I am love-sick.'
6 Let his left hand be under my head,
And his right hand embrace me.
7 'I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
By the gazelles, and by the hinds of the field,
That ye awaken not, nor stir up love,
Until it please.'

8 6 Set me as a seal upon thy heart,
As a seal upon thine arm;
For love is strong as death,

Jealousy is cruel as the grave;
The flashes thereof are flashes of fire,
A very flame of the LORD.
7 Many waters cannot quench love,
Neither can the floods drown it;
If a man would give all the substance of his house for love,
He would utterly be contemned.

RUTH

The Story of Ruth

1 AND it came to pass in the days when the judges judged, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Beth-lehem in Judah went to sojourn in the field of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons. 2 And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Beth-lehem in Judah. And they came into the field of Moab, and continued there. 3 And Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. 4 And they took them wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth; and they dwelt there about ten years. 5 And Mahlon and Chilion died both of them; and the woman was left of her two children and of her husband. 6 Then she arose with her daughters-in-law, that she might return from the field of Moab; for she had heard in the field of Moab how that the LORD had remembered His people in giving them bread. 7 And she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-

law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah. 8 And Naomi said unto her two daughters-in-law: 'Go, return each of you to her mother's house; the LORD deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me. 9 The LORD grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband.' Then she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept. 10 And they said unto her: 'Nay, but we will return with thee unto thy people.' 11 And Naomi said: 'Turn back, my daughters; why will ye go with me? have I yet sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands? 12 Turn back, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say: I have hope, should I even have a husband to-night, and also bear sons; 13 would ye tarry for them, till they were grown? would ye shut yourselves off for them and have no husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes, for the hand of the LORD is gone forth against me.' 14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law; but Ruth cleaved unto her. 15 And she said: 'Behold, thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people, and unto her god; return thou after thy sister-in-law.' 16 And Ruth said: 'Entreat me not to leave thee, and to return from following after thee; for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; 17 where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried; the LORD do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me.' 18 And when she

saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, she left off speaking unto her. 19 So they two went until they came to Beth-lehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Beth-lehem, that all the city was astir concerning them, and the women said: 'Is this Naomi?' 20 And she said unto them: 'Call me not Naomi, call me Marah; for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me. 21 I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me back home empty; why call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?' 22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, with her, who returned out of the field of Moab—and they came to Beth-lehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

2 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of valour, of the family of Elimelech, and his name was Boaz. 2 And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi: 'Let me now go to the field, and glean among the ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find favour.' And she said unto her: 'Go, my daughter.' 3 And she went, and came and gleaned in the field after the reapers; and her hap was to light on the portion of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. 4 And, behold, Boaz came from Beth-lehem, and said unto the reapers: 'The LORD be with you.' And they answered him: 'The LORD bless thee.' 5 Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers: 'Whose damsel is this?' 6 And the servant that was set over the reapers answered and said: 'It is a Moabitish damsel that

came back with Naomi out of the field of Moab
7 and she said: Let me glean, I pray you, and
gather after the reapers among the sheaves; so
she came, and hath continued even from the
morning until now, save that she tarried a little
in the house.' 8 Then said Boaz unto Ruth:
'Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to
glean in another field, neither pass from hence,
but abide here fast by my maidens. 9 Let thine
eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go
thou after them; have I not charged the young
men that they shall not touch thee? and when
thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink
of that which the young men have drawn.'
10 Then she fell on her face, and bowed down
to the ground, and said unto him: 'Why have I
found favour in thy sight, that thou shouldest
take cognizance of me, seeing I am a foreigner?'
11 And Boaz answered and said unto her: 'It
hath fully been told me, all that thou hast done
unto thy mother-in-law since the death of thy
husband; and how thou hast left thy father and
thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and
art come unto a people that thou knewest not
heretofore. 12 The LORD recompense thy work,
and be thy reward complete from the LORD, the
God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come
to take refuge.' 13 Then she said: 'Let me find
favour in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast
comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken to
the heart of thy handmaid, though I be not as
one of thy handmaidens.' 14 And Boaz said
unto her at meal-time: 'Come hither, and eat of
the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar.'
And she sat beside the reapers; and they reached

her parched corn, and she did eat and was satisfied, and left thereof. 15 And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying: 'Let her glean even among the sheaves, and put her not to shame. 16 And also pull out some for her of purpose from the bundles, and leave it, and let her glean, and rebuke her not.' 17 So she gleaned in the field until even; and she beat out that which she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. 18 And she took it up, and went into the city; and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned; and she brought forth and gave to her that which she had left after she was satisfied. 19 And her mother-in-law said unto her: 'Where hast thou gleaned to-day? and where wroughtest thou? and blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee.' And she told her mother-in-law with whom she had wrought, and said: 'The man's name with whom I wrought to-day is Boaz.' 20 And Naomi said unto her daughter-in-law: 'Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off His kindness to the living and to the dead.' And Naomi said unto her: 'The man is nigh of kin unto us, one of our near kinsmen.' 21 And Ruth the Moabitess said: 'Yea, he said unto me: Thou shalt keep fast by my young men, until they have ended all my harvest.' 22 And Naomi said unto Ruth her daughter-in-law: 'It is good, my daughter, that thou go out with his maidens, and that thou be not met in any other field.' 23 So she kept fast by the maidens of Boaz to glean unto the end of barley harvest and of wheat harvest; and she dwelt with her mother-in-law.

3 And Naomi her mother-in-law said unto her:
'My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee,
that it may be well with thee? 2 And now is there
not Boaz our kinsman, with whose maidens thou
wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to-night in
the threshing-floor. 3 Wash thyself therefore,
and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee,
and get thee down to the threshing-floor; but
make not thyself known unto the man, until he
shall have done eating and drinking. 4 And it
shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt
mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt
go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down;
and he will tell thee what thou shalt do.' 5 And
she said unto her: 'All that thou sayest unto
me I will do.' 6 And she went down unto the
threshing-floor, and did according to all that
her mother-in-law bade her. 7 And when Boaz
had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry,
he went to lie down at the end of the heap of
corn; and she came softly, and uncovered his
feet, and laid her down. 8 And it came to pass
at midnight, that the man was startled, and
turned himself; and, behold, a woman lay at his
feet. 9 And he said: 'Who art thou?' And she
answered: 'I am Ruth thy handmaid; spread
therefore thy skirt over thy handmaid; for thou
art a near kinsman.' 10 And he said: 'Blessed
be thou of the LORD, my daughter; thou hast
shown more kindness in the end than at the be-
ginning, inasmuch as thou didst not follow the
young men, whether poor or rich. 11 And now,
my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that
thou sayest; for all the men in the gate of my
people do know that thou art a virtuous woman.

12 And now it is true that I am a near kinsman;
howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I.
13 Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform unto thee the part
of a kinsman, well; let him do the kinsman's
part; but if he be not willing to do the part of
a kinsman to thee, then will I do the part of a
kinsman to thee, as the LORD liveth; lie down
until the morning.' 14 And she lay at his feet
until the morning; and she rose up before one
could discern another. For he said: 'Let it not
be known that the woman came to the threshing-
floor.' 15 And he said: 'Bring the mantle that
is upon thee, and hold it'; and she held it; and
he measured six measures of barley, and laid it
on her; and he went into the city. 16 And
when she came to her mother-in-law, she said:
'Who art thou, my daughter?' And she told
her all that the man had done to her. 17 And
she said: 'These six measures of barley gave he
me; for he said to me: Go not empty unto thy
mother-in-law.' 18 Then said she: 'Sit still, my
daughter, until thou know how the matter will
fall; for the man will not rest, until he have
finished the thing this day.'

4 Now Boaz went up to the gate, and sat him down there; and, behold, the near kinsman
of whom Boaz spoke came by; unto whom he
said: 'Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here.'
And he turned aside, and sat down. 2 And he
took ten men of the elders of the city, and said:
'Sit ye down here.' And they sat down. 3 And
he said unto the near kinsman: 'Naomi, that is
come back out of the field of Moab, selleth the
parcel of land, which was our brother Elime-

lech's; 4 and I thought to disclose it unto thee, saying: Buy it before them that sit here, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it; but if it will not be redeemed, then tell me, that I may know; for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee.' And he said: 'I will redeem it.' 5 Then said Boaz: 'What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi—hast thou also bought of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance?' 6 And the near kinsman said: 'I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance; take thou my right of redemption on thee; for I cannot redeem it.'—7 Now this was the custom in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning exchanging, to confirm all things: a man drew off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour; and this was the attestation in Israel.—8 So the near kinsman said unto Boaz: 'Buy it for thyself.' And he drew off his shoe. 9 And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people: 'Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi. 10 Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I acquired to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place; ye are witnesses this day.' 11 And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said: 'We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman that is come into thy house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did

build the house of Israel; and do thou worthily in Ephrath, and be famous in Beth-lehem;
12 and let thy house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore unto Judah, of the seed which the LORD shall give thee of this young woman.'
13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife; and he went in unto her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son. 14 And the women said unto Naomi: 'Blessed be the LORD, who hath not left thee this day without a near kinsman, and let his name be famous in Israel.
15 And he shall be unto thee a restorer of life, and a nourisher of thine old age; for thy daughter-in-law, who loveth thee, who is better to thee than seven sons, hath borne him.' 16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it. 17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying: 'There is a son born to Naomi'; and they called his name Obed; he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

LAMENTATIONS

Lament for Zion

1 How doth the city sit solitary,
That was full of people!
How is she become as a widow!
She that was great among the nations,
And princess among the provinces,
How is she become tributary!
2 She weepeth sore in the night,
And her tears are on her cheeks;
She hath none to comfort her
Among all her lovers;

All her friends have dealt treacherously with her,
They are become her enemies.
3 Judah is gone into exile because of affliction,
And because of great servitude;
She dwelleth among the nations,
She findeth no rest;
All her pursuers overtook her
Within the straits.
4 The ways of Zion do mourn,
Because none come to the solemn assembly;
All her gates are desolate,
Her priests sigh;
Her virgins are afflicted,
And she herself is in bitterness.
5 Her adversaries are become the head,
Her enemies are at ease;
For the LORD hath afflicted her
For the multitude of her transgressions;
Her young children are gone into captivity
Before the adversary.
6 And gone is from the daughter of Zion
All her splendour;
Her princes are become like harts
That find no pasture,
And they are gone without strength
Before the pursuer.

7 Jerusalem remembereth
In the days of her affliction and of her anguish
All her treasures that she had
From the days of old;
Now that her people fall by the hand of the adversary,

And none doth help her,
The adversaries have seen her,
They have mocked at her desolations.
8 Jerusalem hath grievously sinned,
Therefore she is become as one unclean;
All that honoured her despise her,
Because they have seen her nakedness;
She herself also sigheth,
And turneth backward.
9 Her filthiness was in her skirts,
She was not mindful of her end;
Therefore is she come down wonderfully,
She hath no comforter.
'Behold, O LORD, my affliction,
For the enemy hath magnified himself.'
10 The adversary hath spread out his hand
Upon all her treasures;
For she hath seen that the heathen
Are entered into her sanctuary,
Concerning whom Thou didst command
That they should not enter into Thy congregation.
11 All her people sigh,
They seek bread;
They have given their pleasant things for food
To refresh the soul.
'See, O LORD, and behold,
How abject I am become.'

12 'Let it not come unto you, all ye that pass by!
Behold, and see
If there be any pain like unto my pain,
Which is done unto me,
Wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me

In the day of His fierce anger.
13 From on high hath He sent fire
Into my bones, and it prevaileth against them;
He hath spread a net for my feet,
He hath turned me back;
He hath made me desolate
And faint all the day.
14 The yoke of my transgressions is impressed by His hand;
They are knit together,
They are come up upon my neck;
He hath made my strength to fail;
The Lord hath delivered me into their hands,
Against whom I am not able to stand.
15 The Lord hath set at nought
All my mighty men in the midst of me;
He hath called a solemn assembly against me
To crush my young men;
The Lord hath trodden as in a winepress
The virgin daughter of Judah.'
16 'For these things I weep;
Mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water;
Because the comforter is far from me,
Even he that should refresh my soul;
My children are desolate,
Because the enemy hath prevailed.'
17 Zion spreadeth forth her hands;
There is none to comfort her;
The LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob,
That they that are round about him should be his adversaries;
Jerusalem is among them
As one unclean.

18 'The LORD is righteous;
For I have rebelled against His word;
Hear, I pray you, all ye peoples,
And behold my pain:
My virgins and my young men
Are gone into captivity.
19 I called for my lovers,
But they deceived me;
My priests and mine elders
Perished in the city,
While they sought them food
To refresh their souls.
20 Behold, O LORD, for I am in distress,
Mine inwards burn;
My heart is turned within me,
For I have grievously rebelled.
Abroad the sword bereaveth,
At home there is the like of death.
21 They have heard that I sigh,
There is none to comfort me;
All mine enemies have heard of my trouble,
and are glad,
For Thou hast done it;
Thou wilt bring the day that Thou hast
proclaimed,
And they shall be like unto me.
22 Let all their wickedness come before Thee;
And do unto them,
As Thou hast done unto me
For all my transgressions:
For my sighs are many,
And my heart is faint.'

5 20 Wherefore dost Thou forget us for ever,
And forsake us so long time?

21 Turn Thou us unto Thee, O LORD, and we
shall be turned;
Renew our days as of old.
22 Thou canst not have utterly rejected us,
And be exceeding wroth against us!

ECCLESIASTES

Man Never Knows

1 THE words of Koheleth, the son of David
king in Jerusalem.
2 Vanity of vanities, saith Koheleth;
Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.
13 And I applied my heart to seek and to search
out by wisdom concerning all things that are
done under heaven; it is a sore task that God
hath given to the sons of men to be exercised
therewith. 14 I have seen all the works that
are done under the sun; and, behold, all is van-
ity and a striving after wind.
3 To every thing there is a season, and a time
to every purpose under the heaven:
2 A time to be born, and a time to die;
A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that
which is planted;
3 A time to kill, and a time to heal;
A time to break down, and a time to build
up;
4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
A time to mourn, and a time to dance;
5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to
gather stones together;
A time to embrace, and a time to refrain
from embracing,
6 A time to seek, and a time to lose;

A time to keep, and a time to cast away;
7 A time to rend, and a time to sew;
A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
8 A time to love, and a time to hate;
A time for war, and a time for peace.
9 What profit hath he that worketh in that he laboureth? 10 I have seen the task which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised therewith. 11 He hath made every thing beautiful in its time; also He hath set the world in their heart, yet so that man cannot find out the work that God hath done from the beginning even to the end. 12 I know that there is nothing better for them, than to rejoice, and to get pleasure so long as they live. 13 But also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy pleasure for all his labour, is the gift of God.

8 Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing?
A man's wisdom maketh his face to shine,
And the boldness of his face is changed.
2 I [counsel thee]: keep the king's command, and that in regard of the oath of God. 3 Be not hasty to go out of his presence; stand not in an evil thing; for he doeth whatsoever pleaseth him. 4 Forasmuch as the king's word hath power; and who may say unto him: 'What doest thou?'

5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall know no evil thing;
And a wise man's heart discerneth time and judgment.
6 For to every matter there is a time and judgment; for the evil of man is great upon him.
7 For he knoweth not that which shall be; for

even when it cometh to pass, who shall declare it unto him? 8 There is no man that hath power over the wind to retain the wind; neither hath he power over the day of death; and there is no discharge in war; neither shall wickedness deliver him that is given to it. 9 All this have I seen, even applied my heart thereto, whatever the work that is done under the sun; what time one man had power over another to his hurt.

10 And so I saw the wicked buried, and they entered into their rest; but they that had done right went away from the holy place, and were forgotten in the city; this also is vanity. 11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil; 12 because a sinner doeth evil a hundred times, and prolongeth his days—though yet I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, that fear before Him; 13 but it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he feareth not before God. 14 There is a vanity which is done upon the earth: that there are righteous men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous—I said that this also is vanity. 15 So I commended mirth, that a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry, and that this should accompany him in his labour all the days of his life which God hath given him under the sun.

16 When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the

earth—for neither day nor night do men see sleep with their eyes—17 then I beheld all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun; because though a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further, though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

11 6 In the morning sow thy seed,
And in the evening withhold not thy hand;
For thou knowest not which shall prosper,
whether this or that,
Or whether they both shall be alike good.
7 And the light is sweet,
And a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun.
8 For if a man live many years,
Let him rejoice in them all,
And remember the days of darkness,
For they shall be many.
All that cometh is vanity.

9 Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth;
And let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth,
And walk in the ways of thy heart,
And in the sight of thine eyes;
But know thou, that for all these things
God will bring thee into judgment.
10 Therefore remove vexation from thy heart,
And put away evil from thy flesh;
For childhood and youth are vanity.

12 Remember then thy Creator in the days of thy youth,

Before the evil days come,
And the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say:
'I have no pleasure in them';
2 Before the sun, and the light, and the moon,
And the stars, are darkened,
And the clouds return after the rain;
3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble,
And the strong men shall bow themselves,
And the grinders cease because they are few,
And those that look out shall be darkened in the windows,
4 And the doors shall be shut in the street,
When the sound of the grinding is low;
And one shall start up at the voice of a bird,
And all the daughters of music shall be brought low;
5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high,
And terrors shall be in the way;
And the almond-tree shall blossom,
And the grasshopper shall drag itself along,
And the caperberry shall fail;
Because man goeth to his long home,
And the mourners go about the streets;
6 Before the silver cord is snapped asunder,
And the golden bowl is shattered,
And the pitcher is broken at the fountain,
And the wheel falleth shattered into the pit;
7 And the dust returneth to the earth as it was,
And the spirit returneth unto God who gave it.

8 Vanity of vanities, saith Koheleth;
All is vanity.

ESTHER

Story of Purim

1 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus —this is Ahasuerus who reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over a hundred and seven and twenty provinces—2 that in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the castle, 3 in the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the army of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him; 4 when he showed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty, many days, even a hundred and fourscore days. 5 And when these days were fulfilled, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the castle, both great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace; 6 there were hangings of white, fine cotton, and blue, bordered with cords of fine linen and purple, upon silver rods and pillars of marble; the couches were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of green, and white, and shell, and onyx marble. 7 And they gave them drink in vessels of gold—the vessels being diverse one from another—and royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the king. 8 And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel; for so the king had appointed to all the officers of

his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

9 Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus. 10 On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Bizzetha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that ministered in the presence of Ahasuerus the king, 11 to bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to show the peoples and the princes her beauty; for she was fair to look on. 12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by the chamberlains; therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

13 Then the king said to the wise men, who knew the times—for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment; 14 and the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, and sat first in the kingdom: 15 'What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, forasmuch as she hath not done the bidding of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?'

16 And Memucan answered before the king and the princes: 'Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the peoples, that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus. 17 For this deed of the queen will come abroad unto all women, to make their husbands contemptible in their eyes, when it will be said: The king

Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not. 18 And this day will the princesses of Persia and Media who have heard of the deed of the queen say the like unto all the king's princes. So will there arise enough contempt and wrath. 19 If it please the king, let there go forth a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, that Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus, and that the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she. 20 And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his kingdom, great though it be, all the wives will give to their husbands honour, both to great and small.' 21 And the word pleased the king and the princes; and the king did according to the word of Memucan; 22 for he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and speak according to the language of his people.

2 After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was assuaged, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her. 2 Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him: 'Let there be sought for the king young virgins fair to look on; 3 and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the castle, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hegai the king's chamber-

lain, keeper of the women; and let their ointments be given them; 4 and let the maiden that pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti.' And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

5 There was a certain Jew in Shushan the castle, whose name was Mordecai the son of Jair the son of Shimei the son of Kish, a Benjamite, 6 who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives that had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away. 7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter; for she had neither father nor mother, and the maiden was of beautiful form and fair to look on; and when her father and mother were dead, Mordecai took her for his own daughter.

8 So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was published, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the castle, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was taken into the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women. 9 And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her ointments, with her portions, and the seven maidens, who were meet to be given her out of the king's house; and he advanced her and her maidens to the best place in the house of the women. 10 Esther had not made known her people nor her kindred; for Mordecai had charged her that she should not tell it. 11 And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what would become of her.

12 Now when the turn of every maiden was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that it had been done to her according to the law for the women, twelve months—for so were the days of their anointing accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other ointments of the women—13 when then the maiden came unto the king, whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house. 14 In the evening she went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, who kept the concubines; she came in unto the king no more, except the king delighted in her, and she were called by name.

15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her. 16 So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. 17 And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti. 18 Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast; and he made a re-

lease to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the bounty of the king.

19 And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, and Mordecai sat in the king's gate—20 Esther had not yet made known her kindred nor her people; as Mordecai had charged her; for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him—21 in those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those that kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus. 22 And the thing became known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther told the king thereof in Mordecai's name. 23 And when inquisition was made of the matter, and it was found to be so, they were both hanged on a tree; and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

3 After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him. 2 And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed down, and prostrated themselves before Haman; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him. 3 Then the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai: 'Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?' 4 Now it came to pass, when they spoke daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's words would stand; for

he had told them that he was a Jew. 5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him, then was Haman full of wrath. 6 But it seemed contemptible in his eyes to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had made known to him the people of Mordecai; wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai. 7 In the first month, which is the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

8 And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus: 'There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from those of every people; neither keep they the king's laws; therefore it profiteth not the king to suffer them. 9 If it please the king, let it be written that they be destroyed; and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those that have the charge of the king's business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.' 10 And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy. 11 And the king said unto Haman: 'The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.'

12 Then were the king's scribes called in the first month, on the thirteenth day thereof, and there was written, according to all that Haman

commanded, unto the king's satraps, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the princes of every people; to every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and it was sealed with the king's ring. 13 And letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey. 14 The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all the peoples, that they should be ready against that day. 15 The posts went forth in haste by the king's commandment, and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle; and the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Shushan was perplexed.

4 Now when Mordecai knew all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry; 2 and he came even before the king's gate; for none might enter within the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. 3 And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 And Esther's maidens and her chamberlains came and told it her; and the queen was exceedingly pained; and she sent raiment to clothe

Mordecai, and to take his sackcloth from off him; but he accepted it not. 5 Then called Esther for Hathach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and charged him to go to Mordecai, to know what this was, and why it was. 6 So Hathach went forth to Mordecai unto the broad place of the city, which was before the king's gate. 7 And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and the exact sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them. 8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given out in Shushan to destroy them, to show it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her; and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him, for her people.

9 And Hathach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai. 10 Then Esther spoke unto Hathach, and gave him a message unto Mordecai: 11 'All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law for him, that he be put to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live; but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.' 12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13 Then Mordecai bade them return answer unto Esther: 'Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all

the Jews. 14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then will relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place, but thou and thy father's house will perish; and who knoweth whether thou art not come to royal estate for such a time as this?' 15 Then Esther bade them return answer unto Mordecai: 16 'Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day; I also and my maidens will fast in like manner; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.' 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

5 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house; and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the entrance of the house. 2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight; and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre. 3 Then said the king unto her: 'What wilt thou, queen Esther? for whatever thy request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be given thee.' 4 And Esther said: 'If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.' 5 Then the king said. 'Cause Haman to make haste, that it may be done as Esther hath said.' So the king and Haman

came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. 6 And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine: 'Whatever thy petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever thy request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.' 7 Then answered Esther, and said: 'My petition and my request is—8 if I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request—let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to-morrow as the king hath said.'

9 Then went Haman forth that day joyful and glad of heart; but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up nor moved for him, Haman was filled with wrath against Mordecai. 10 Nevertheless Haman refrained himself, and went home; and he sent and fetched his friends and Zeresh his wife. 11 And Haman recounted unto them the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and everything as to how the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king. 12 Haman said moreover: 'Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to-morrow also am I invited by her together with the king. 13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.' 14 Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him: 'Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and in the morning speak thou unto the king that Mor-

decai may be hanged thereon; then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet.' And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

6 On that night could not the king sleep; and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles, and they were read before the king. 2 And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, of those that kept the door, who had sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus. 3 And the king said: 'What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this?' Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him: 'There is nothing done for him.' 4 And the king said: 'Who is in the court?'—Now Haman was come into the outer court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.—5 And the king's servants said unto him: 'Behold, Haman standeth in the court.' And the king said: 'Let him come in.' 6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him: 'What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour?'—Now Haman said in his heart: 'Whom would the king delight to honour besides myself?'—7 And Haman said unto the king: 'For the man whom the king delighteth to honour, 8 let royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon and on whose head a crown royal is set; 9 and let the apparel and the horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man therewith

whom the king delighteth to honour, and cause him to ride on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him: Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour. 10 Then the king said to Haman: 'Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate; let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.' 11 Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and caused him to ride through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him: 'Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.'

12 And Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house, mourning and having his head covered. 13 And Haman recounted unto Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him: 'If Mordecai, before whom thou hast begun to fall, be of the seed of the Jews, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.' 14 While they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

7 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen. 2 And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine: 'Whatever thy petition, queen Esther, it shall be granted thee; and whatever thy request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.' 3 Then Esther the

queen answered and said: 'If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request; 4 for we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my peace, for the adversary is not worthy that the king be endamaged.'

5 Then spoke the king Ahasuerus and said unto Esther the queen: 'Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?' 6 And Esther said: 'An adversary and an enemy, even this wicked Haman.' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. 7 And the king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman remained to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king. 8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the couch whereon Esther was. Then said the king: 'Will he even force the queen before me in the house?' As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face. 9 Then said Harbonah, one of the chamberlains that were before the king: 'Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman hath made for Mordecai, who spoke good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman.' And the king said: 'Hang him thereon.' 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath assuaged.

8 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her. 2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

3 And Esther spoke yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews. 4 Then the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre. So Esther arose, and stood before the king. 5 And she said: 'If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews that are in all the king's provinces; 6 for how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?'

7 Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew: 'Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews. 8 Write ye also concerning the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring; for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.' 9 Then were the king's

scribes called at that time, in the third month, which is the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded concerning the Jews, even to the satraps, and the governors and princes of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, a hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language. 10 And they wrote in the name of king Ahasuerus, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, riding on swift steeds that were used in the king's service, bred of the stud; 11 that the king had granted the Jews that were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, and to slay, and to cause to perish, all the forces of the people and province that would assault them, their little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey, 12 upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar. 13 The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all the peoples, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. 14 So the posts that rode upon swift steeds that were used in the king's service went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment; and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle.

15 And Mordecai went forth from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a robe of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan shouted and was glad. 16 The Jews had light and gladness, and joy and honour. 17 And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had gladness and joy, a feast and a good day. And many from among the peoples of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews was fallen upon them.

9 Now in the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have rule over them; whereas it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them; 2 the Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt; and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them was fallen upon all the peoples. 3 And all the princes of the provinces, and the satraps, and the governors, and they that did the king's business, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai was fallen upon them. 4 For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went forth throughout all the provinces; for the man Mordecai waxed greater and greater. 5 And the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and with slaughter and destruction, and did what they would unto

them that hated them. 6 And in Shushan the castle the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men. 7 And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha, 8 and Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha, 9 and Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vaizatha, 10 the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy, slew they; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

11 On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the castle was brought before the king. 12 And the king said unto Esther the queen: 'The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the castle, and the ten sons of Haman; what then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now whatever thy petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever thy request further, it shall be done.' 13 Then said Esther: 'If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews that are in Shushan to do to-morrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.' 14 And the king commanded it so to be done; and a decree was given out in Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons. 15 And the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men in Shushan; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

16 And the other Jews that were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of them that hated them seventy and five thousand—but on the spoil they laid not their hand—17 on the thirteenth

day of the month Adar, and on the fourteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. 18 But the Jews that were in Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. 19 Therefore do the Jews of the villages, that dwell in the unwalled towns, make the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

20 And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far, 21 to enjoin them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly, 22 the days wherein the Jews had rest from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to gladness, and from mourning into a good day; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor. 23 And the Jews took upon them to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them; 24 because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast pur, that is, the lot, to discomfit them, and to destroy them; 25 but when she came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he had devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head; and that he and his sons should

be hanged on the gallows. 26 Wherefore they called these days Purim, after the name of pur. Therefore because of all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and that which had come unto them, 27 the Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to the writing thereof, and according to the appointed time thereof, every year; 28 and that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.

29 Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote down all the acts of power, to confirm this second letter of Purim. 30 And he sent letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth, 31 to confirm these days of Purim in their appointed times, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had ordained for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry. 32 And the commandment of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

10 And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea. 2 And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the full account of the greatness

of Mordecai, how the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? 3 For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren; seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all his seed.

DANIEL

Loyal Youths

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. 2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God; and he carried them into the land of Shinar to the house of his god, and the vessels he brought into the treasure-house of his god. 3 And the king spoke unto Ashpenaz his chief officer, that he should bring in certain of the children of Israel, and of the seed royal, and of the nobles, 4 youths in whom was no blemish, but fair to look on, and skilful in all wisdom, and skilful in knowledge, and discerning in thought, and such as had ability to stand in the king's palace; and that he should teach them the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. 5 And the king appointed for them a daily portion of the king's food, and of the wine which he drank, and that they should be nourished three years; that at the end thereof they might stand before the king. 6 Now among these were, of the children of Judah,

Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. 7 And the chief of the officers gave names unto them: unto Daniel he gave the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abed-nego.

8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the king's food, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the officers that he might not defile himself. 9 And God granted Daniel mercy and compassion in the sight of the chief of the officers. 10 And the chief of the officers said unto Daniel: 'I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces sad in comparison with the youths that are of your own age? so would ye endanger my head with the king.' 11 Then said Daniel to the steward, whom the chief of the officers had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: 12 'Try thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. 13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the youths that eat of the king's food; and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.' 14 So he hearkened unto them in this matter, and tried them ten days. 15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer, and they were fatter in flesh, than all the youths that did eat of the king's food. 16 So the steward took away their food, and the wine that they should drink, and gave them pulse.

17 Now as for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and

wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. 18 And at the end of the days which the king had appointed for bringing them in, the chief of the officers brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king spoke with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore stood they before the king. 20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his realm. 21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Belshazzar's Feast

5 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king and his lords, his consorts and his concubines, might drink therein. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his consorts and his concubines, drank in them. 4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. 5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the palm of the hand that wrote. 6 Then

the king's countenance was changed in him, and his thoughts affrighted him; and the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another. 7 The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the astrologers. The king spoke and said to the wise men of Babylon: 'Whosoever shall read this writing, and declare unto me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with purple, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall rule as one of three in the kingdom.'

8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation. 9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly affrighted, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were perplexed. 10 Now the queen by reason of the words of the king and his lords came into the banquet house; the queen spoke and said: 'O king, live for ever! let not thy thoughts affright thee, nor let thy countenance be changed; 11 there is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; and the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made him master of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and astrologers; 12 forasmuch as a surpassing spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and declaring of riddles, and loosing of knots, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will declare the interpretation.'

13 Then was Daniel brought in before the

king. The king spoke and said unto Daniel: 'Art thou Daniel, who is of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Judah? 14 I have heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and surpassing wisdom is found in thee. 15 And now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof; but they could not declare the interpretation of the thing. 16 But I have heard of thee, that thou canst give interpretations, and loose knots; now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with purple, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt rule as one of three in the kingdom.'

17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king: 'Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; nevertheless I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation. 18 O thou king, God Most High gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father the kingdom, and greatness, and glory, and majesty; 19 and because of the greatness that He gave him, all the peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew, and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he raised up, and whom he would he put down. 20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened that he dealt proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and his glory was taken from him; 21 and he was driven from the sons

of men, and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses; he was fed with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; until he knew that God Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and that He setteth up over it whomsoever He will. 22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thy heart, though thou knewest all this; 23 but hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before thee, and thou and thy lords, thy consorts and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know; and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified; 24 then was the palm of the hand sent from before Him, and this writing was inscribed. 25 And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE MENE, TEKEL UPHARSIN. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE, God hath numbered thy kingdom, and brought it to an end. 27 TEKEL, thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 PERES, thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.'

29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with purple, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made proclamation concerning him, that he should rule as one of three in the kingdom. 30 In that night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain.

Daniel and the Lions

6 5 Then the presidents and the satraps sought
to find occasion against Daniel as touching
the kingdom; but they could find no occasion
nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither
was there any error or fault found in him.
6 Then said these men: 'We shall not find any
occasion against this Daniel, except we find it
against him in the matter of the law of his
God.' 7 Then these presidents and satraps
came tumultuously to the king, and said thus
unto him: 'King Darius, live for ever! 8 All
the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and
the satraps, the ministers and the governors,
have consulted together that the king should
establish a statute, and make a strong interdict,
that whosoever shall ask a petition of any god
or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he
shall be cast into the den of lions. 9 Now, O
king, establish the interdict, and sign the writ-
ing, that it be not changed, according to the
law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth
not.' 10 Wherefore king Darius signed the writ-
ing and the interdict.

11 And when Daniel knew that the writing
was signed, he went into his house—now his
windows were open in his upper chamber to-
ward Jerusalem—and he kneeled upon his knees
three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks
before his God, as he did aforetime. 12 Then
these men came tumultuously, and found Dan-
iel making petition and supplication before his
God. 13 Then they came near, and spoke be-
fore the king concerning the king's interdict:

'Hast thou not signed an interdict, that every man that shall make petition unto any god or man within thirty days, save unto thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?' The king answered and said: 'The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.' 14 Then answered they and said before the king: 'That Daniel, who is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the interdict that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.' 15 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he laboured till the going down of the sun to rescue him. 16 Then these men came tumultuously unto the king, and said unto the king: 'Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians, that no interdict nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.' 17 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spoke and said unto Daniel: 'Thy God whom thou servest continually, He will deliver thee.' 18 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

19 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting; neither were diversions brought before him; and his sleep fled from him. 20 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. 21 And when he came near unto the

den to Daniel, he cried with a pained voice; the king spoke and said to Daniel: 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?' 22 Then said Daniel unto the king: 'O king, live for ever! 23 My God hath sent His angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me; forasmuch as before Him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.' 24 Then was the king exceeding glad, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he had trusted in his God.

Daniel's Prayer

9 3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes. 4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made confession, and said: 'O Lord, the great and awful God, who keepest covenant and mercy with them that love Thee and keep Thy commandments, 5 we have sinned, and have dealt iniquitously, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, and have turned aside from Thy commandments and from Thine ordinances; 6 neither have we hearkened unto Thy servants the prophets, that spoke in Thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. 7 Unto Thee, O Lord, belongeth righteousness, but unto us confusion of face, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the in-

habitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither Thou hast driven them, because they dealt treacherously with Thee. 8 O LORD, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against Thee. 9 To the Lord our God belong compassions and forgivenesses; for we have rebelled against Him; 10 neither have we hearkened to the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets. 11 Yea, all Israel have transgressed Thy law, and have turned aside, so as not to hearken to Thy voice; and so there hath been poured out upon us the curse and the oath that is written in the Law of Moses the servant of God; for we have sinned against Him. 12 And He hath confirmed His word, which He spoke against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil; so that under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. 13 As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us; yet have we not entreated the favour of the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and have discernment in Thy truth. 14 And so the LORD hath watched over the evil, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all His works which He hath done, and we have not hearkened to His voice. 15 And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought Thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten Thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned,

we have done wickedly. 16 O Lord, according to all Thy righteousness, let Thine anger and Thy fury, I pray Thee, be turned away from Thy city Jerusalem, Thy holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Thy people are become a reproach to all that are round about us. 17 Now therefore, O our God, hearken unto the prayer of Thy servant, and to his supplications, and cause Thy face to shine upon Thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. 18 O my God, incline Thine ear, and hear; open Thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city upon which Thy name is called; for we do not present our supplications before Thee because of our righteousness, but because of Thy great compassions. 19 O Lord, hear, O Lord, forgive, O Lord, attend and do, defer not; for Thine own sake, O my God, because Thy name is called upon Thy city and Thy people.'

EZRA

Keeping Faith

9 5 And at the evening offering I arose up from my fasting, even with my garment and my mantle rent, and I fell upon my knees, and spread out my hands unto the LORD my God; 6 and I said: 'O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to Thee, my God; for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our guiltiness is grown up unto the heavens. 7 Since the days of our fathers we have been exceeding guilty unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our

priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to spoiling, and to confusion of face, as it is this day. 8 And now for a little moment grace hath been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in His holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage 9 For we are bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the ruins thereof, and to give us a fence in Judah and in Jerusalem. 10 And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken Thy commandments, 11 which Thou hast commanded by Thy servants the prophets, saying: The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is an unclean land through the uncleanness of the peoples of the lands, through their abominations, wherewith they have filled it from one end to another in their filthiness. 12 Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their prosperity for ever; that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever. 13 And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great guilt, seeing that Thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such a remnant, 14 shall we again break Thy commandments, and make marriages with the peoples that do

these abominations? wouldest not Thou be angry with us till Thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape? 15 O LORD, the God of Israel, Thou art righteous; for we are left a remnant that is escaped, as it is this day; behold, we are before Thee in our guiltiness; for none can stand before Thee because of this.'

10 Now while Ezra prayed, and made confession, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there was gathered together unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men and women and children; for the people wept very sore. 2 And Shecaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said unto Ezra: 'We have broken faith with our God, and have married foreign women of the peoples of the land; yet now there is hope for Israel concerning this thing. 3 Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of the LORD, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law. 4 Arise; for the matter belongeth unto thee, and we are with thee; be of good courage, and do it.'

5 Then arose Ezra, and made the chiefs of the priests, the Levites, and all Israel, to swear that they would do according to this word. So they swore. 6 Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib; and when he came thither, he did eat no bread, nor drink water; for he mourned because of the faithless-

ness of them of the captivity. 7 And they made proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem unto all the children of the captivity, that they should gather themselves together unto Jerusalem; 8 and that whosoever came not within three days, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, all his substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the congregation of the captivity.

9 Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves together unto Jerusalem within the three days; it was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month; and all the people sat in the broad place before the house of God, trembling because of this matter, and for the great rain. 10 And Ezra the priest stood up, and said unto them: 'Ye have broken faith, and have married foreign women, to increase the guilt of Israel. 11 Now therefore make confession unto the LORD, the God of your fathers, and do His pleasure; and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the foreign women.' 12 Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice: 'As thou hast said, so it is for us to do. 13 But the people are many, and it is a time of much rain, and we are not able to stand without, neither is this a work of one day or two; for we have greatly transgressed in this matter. 14 Let now our princes of all the congregation stand, and let all them that are in our cities that have married foreign women come at appointed times, and with them the elders of every city, and the judges thereof, until the fierce wrath of our God be turned from us, as touch-

ing this matter.' 15 Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahzeiah the son of Tikvah stood up against this matter; and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them. 16 And the children of the captivity did so. And Ezra the priest, with certain heads of fathers' houses, after their fathers' houses, and all of them by their names, were separated; and they sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter. 17 And they were finished with all the men that had married foreign women by the first day of the first month.

NEHEMIAH

Nehemiah's Mission

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it came to pass in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the castle, 2 that Hanani, one of my brethren, came out of Judah, he and certain men; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, that were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. 3 And they said unto me: 'The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach; the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.' 4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days; and I fasted and prayed before the God of heaven, 5 and said: 'I beseech Thee, O Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awful God, that keepeth covenant and

mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments; 6 let Thine ear now be attentive, and Thine eyes open, that Thou mayest hearken unto the prayer of Thy servant, which I pray before Thee at this time, day and night, for the children of Israel Thy servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against Thee; yea, I and my father's house have sinned. 7 We have dealt very corruptly against Thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances which Thou didst command Thy servant Moses. 8 Remember, I beseech Thee, the word that Thou didst command Thy servant Moses, saying: If ye deal treacherously, I will scatter you abroad among the peoples; 9 but if ye return unto Me, and keep My commandments and do them, though your dispersed were in the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to cause My name to dwell there. 10 Now these are Thy servants and Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed by Thy great power, and by Thy strong hand. 11 O Lord, I beseech Thee, let now Thine ear be attentive to the prayer of Thy servant, and to the prayer of Thy servants, who delight to fear Thy name; and prosper, I pray Thee, Thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.' Now I was cupbearer to the king.

2 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, when wine was before him, that I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I

had not been beforetime sad in his presence.
2 And the king said unto me: 'Why is thy
countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this
is nothing else but sorrow of heart.' Then I
was very sore afraid. 3 And I said unto the
king: 'Let the king live for ever: why should
not my countenance be sad, when the city, the
place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and
the gates thereof are consumed with fire?'
4 Then the king said unto me: 'For what dost
thou make request?' So I prayed to the God of
heaven. 5 And I said unto the king: 'If it
please the king, and if thy servant have found
favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send
me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers'
sepulchres, that I may build it.' 6 And the
king said unto me, the queen also sitting by
him: 'For how long shall thy journey be? and
when wilt thou return?' So it pleased the king
to send me; and I set him a time. 7 Moreover
I said unto the king: 'If it please the king, let
letters be given me to the governors beyond
the River, that they may let me pass through
till I come unto Judah; 8 and a letter unto
Asaph the keeper of the king's park, that he
may give me timber to make beams for the
gates of the castle which appertaineth to the
house, and for the wall of the city, and for the
house that I shall enter into.' And the king
granted me, according to the good hand of my
God upon me.

9 Then I came to the governors beyond the
River, and gave them the king's letters. Now
the king had sent with me captains of the
army and horsemen. 10 And when Sanballat

the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly, for that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel. 11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days. 12 And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God put into my heart to do for Jerusalem; neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon. 13 And I went out by night by the valley gate, even toward the dragon's well, and to the dung gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire. 14 Then I went on to the fountain gate and to the king's pool; but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass. 15 Then went I up in the night in the valley, and viewed the wall; and I turned back, and entered by the valley gate, and so returned. 16 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

17 Then said I unto them: 'Ye see the evil case that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire; come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.' 18 And I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also of the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said: 'Let us rise up and build.' So they strengthened their hands for the good work. 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant,

the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said: 'What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?' 20 Then answered I them, and said unto them: 'The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build; but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.'

Defending the Ramparts

3 33 But it came to pass that, when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. 34 And he spoke before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said: 'What do these feeble Jews? will they restore at will? will they sacrifice? will they make an end this day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish, seeing they are burned?' 35 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by him, and he said: 'Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall break down their stone wall.' 36 Hear, O our God; for we are despised; and turn back their reproach upon their own head, and give them up to spoiling in a land of captivity; 37 and cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before Thee; for they have vexed Thee before the builders. 38 So we built the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto half the height thereof; for the people had a mind to work.

4 But it came to pass that, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem went forward,

and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth; 2 and they conspired all of them together to come and fight against Jerusalem, and to cause confusion therein. 3 But we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them. 4 And Judah said: 'The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.' 5 And our adversaries said: 'They shall not know, neither see, till we come into the midst of them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.' 6 And it came to pass that, when the Jews that dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times: 'Ye must return unto us from all places.' 7 Therefore set I in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in the open places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. 8 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people: 'Be not ye afraid of them; remember the Lord, who is great and awful, and fight for your brethren, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses.'

9 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. 10 And it came to pass from that time forth, that half of my servants wrought in the work, and half of them held the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the coats of mail; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah. 11 They that builded the wall and they that bore burdens

laded themselves, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other held his weapon; 12 and the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the horn was by me. 13 And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers and to the rest of the people: 'The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another; 14 in what place soever ye hear the sound of the horn, resort ye thither unto us; our God will fight for us.'

15 So we wrought in the work; and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared. 16 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people: 'Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and may labour in the day.' 17 So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard that followed me, none of us put off our clothes, every one that went to the water had his weapon.

A Solemn Pledge

10 29 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinim, and all they that had separated themselves from the peoples of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one that had knowledge and understanding; 30 they cleaved to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD

our Lord, and His ordinances and His statutes;
31 and that we would not give our daughters
unto the peoples of the land, nor take their
daughters for our sons; 32 and if the peoples
of the land bring ware or any victuals on the
sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy of
them on the sabbath, or on a holy day; and
that we would forego the seventh year, and the
exaction of every debt.

33 Also we made ordinances for us, to charge
ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel
for the service of the house of our God.

FIRST CHRONICLES

The Builder of God's House

22 2 And David commanded to gather to-
gether the strangers that were in the land
of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought
stones to build the house of God. 3 And David
prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the
doors of the gates, and for the couplings; and
brass in abundance without weight; 4 and cedar-
trees without number; for the Zidonians and
they of Tyre brought cedar-trees in abundance
to David. 5 And David said: 'Solomon my son
is young and tender, and the house that is to be
builded for the LORD must be exceeding mag-
nificent, of fame and of glory throughout all
countries; I will therefore make preparation for
him.' So David prepared abundantly before his
death.

6 Then he called for Solomon his son, and
charged him to build a house for the LORD, the
God of Israel. 7 And David said to Solomon:

'My son, as for me, it was in my heart to build a house unto the name of the LORD my God. 8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying: Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars; thou shalt not build a house unto My name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in My sight. 9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about; for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. 10 He shall build a house for My name; and he shall be to Me for a son, and I will be to him for a father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever. 11 Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as He hath spoken concerning thee. 12 Only the LORD give thee discretion and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel; that so thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God. 13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou observe to do the statutes and the ordinances which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel; be strong, and of good courage; fear not, neither be dismayed. 14 Now, behold, in my straits I have prepared for the house of the LORD a hundred thousand talents of gold, and a thousand thousand talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight, for it is in abundance; timber also and stone have I prepared; and thou mayest add thereto. 15 Moreover there are workmen with thee in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all men that are skilful in any man-

ner of work; 16 of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, there is no number. Arise and be doing, and the LORD be with thee.'

17 David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son: 18 'Is not the LORD your God with you? and hath He not given you rest on every side? for He hath delivered the inhabitants of the land into my hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before His people. 19 Now set your heart and your soul to seek after the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.'

Thankful Praise

29 10 Wherefore David blessed the LORD before all the congregation; and David said: 'Blessed be Thou, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, for ever and ever. 11 Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and Thou art exalted as head above all. 12 Both riches and honour come of Thee, and Thou rulest over all; and in Thy hand is power and might; and in Thy hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name. 14 But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of Thee, and of Thine

own have we given Thee. 15 For we are strangers before Thee, and sojourners, as all our fathers were: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is no abiding. 16 O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build Thee a house for Thy holy name cometh of Thy hand, and is all Thine own. 17 I know also, my God, that Thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things; and now have I seen with joy Thy people, that are present here, offer willingly unto Thee. 18 O LORD, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever, even the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of Thy people, and direct their heart unto Thee; 19 and give unto Solomon my son a whole heart, to keep Thy commandments, Thy testimonies, and Thy statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace, for which I have made provision.'

SECOND CHRONICLES

Prayer in a Temple

6 Then spoke Solomon:
The LORD hath said that He would dwell in the thick darkness.
2 But I have built Thee a house of habitation,
And a place for Thee to dwell in for ever.
3 And the king turned his face, and blessed all the congregation of Israel; and all the congregation of Israel stood. 4 And he said: 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who spoke with

His mouth unto David my father, and hath with His hands fulfilled it, saying: 5 Since the day that I brought forth My people out of the land of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build a house in, that My name might be there; neither chose I any man to be prince over My people Israel; 6 but I have chosen Jerusalem, that My name might be there; and have chosen David to be over My people Israel. 7 Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. 8 But the LORD said unto David my father: Whereas it was in thy heart to build a house for My name, thou didst well that it was in thy heart; 9 nevertheless thou shalt not build the house, but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house for My name. 10 And the LORD hath established His word that He spoke; for I am risen up in the room of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. 11 And there have I set the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which He made with the children of Israel.'

12 And he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands—13 for Solomon had made a brazen scaffold, of five cubits long, and five cubits broad, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court; and upon it he stood, and kneeled down upon his knees before all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven—14 and he said: 'O LORD, the God of Israel, there is no God like

Thee, in the heaven, or in the earth; who keepest covenant and mercy with Thy servants, that walk before Thee with all their heart; 15 who hast kept with Thy servant David my father that which Thou didst promise him; yea, Thou spokest with Thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with Thy hand, as it is this day. 16 Now therefore, O LORD, the God of Israel, keep with Thy servant David my father that which Thou hast promised him, saying: There shall not fail thee a man in My sight to sit on the throne of Israel; if only thy children take heed to their way, to walk in My law as thou hast walked before Me. 17 Now therefore, O LORD, the God of Israel, let Thy word be verified, which Thou spokest unto Thy servant David.

18 But will God in very truth dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee; how much less this house which I have builded! 19 Yet have Thou respect unto the prayer of Thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which Thy servant prayeth before Thee; 20 that Thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night, even toward the place whereof Thou hast said that Thou wouldest put Thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which Thy servant shall pray toward this place. 21 And hearken Thou to the supplications of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place; yea, hear Thou from Thy dwelling-place, even from heaven; and when Thou hearest, forgive.

22 If a man sin against his neighbour, and an

oath be exacted of him to cause him to swear, and he come and swear before Thine altar in this house; 23 then hear Thou from heaven, and do, and judge Thy servants, requiting the wicked, to bring his way upon his own head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

24 And if Thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, when they sin against Thee, and shall turn again and confess Thy name, and pray and make supplication before Thee in this house; 25 then hear Thou from heaven, and forgive the sin of Thy people Israel, and bring them back unto the land which Thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

26 When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, when they sin against Thee, if they pray toward this place, and confess Thy name, turning from their sin, when Thou dost afflict them; 27 then hear Thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of Thy servants, and of Thy people Israel, when Thou dost direct them on the good way wherein they should walk; and send rain upon Thy land, which Thou hast given to Thy people for an inheritance.

28 If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting or mildew, locust or caterpillar; if their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague or whatsoever sickness there be; 29 what prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all Thy people Israel, who shall know every man his own plague and his own pain, and shall spread forth his hands toward this house; 30 then hear Thou from heaven Thy dwelling-place, and

forgive, and render unto every man according to all his ways, whose heart Thou knowest—for Thou, even Thou only, knowest the hearts of the children of men—31 that they may fear Thee, to walk in Thy ways, all the days that they live in the land which Thou gavest unto our fathers.

32 Moreover concerning the stranger, that is not of Thy people Israel, when he shall come out of a far country for Thy great name's sake, and Thy mighty hand, and Thine outstretched arm; when they shall come and pray toward this house; 33 then hear Thou from heaven, even from Thy dwelling-place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to Thee for; that all the peoples of the earth may know Thy name, and fear Thee, as doth Thy people Israel, and that they may know that Thy name is called upon this house which I have built.

34 If Thy people go out to battle against their enemies, by whatsoever way Thou shalt send them, and they pray unto Thee toward this city which Thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for Thy name; 35 then hear Thou from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. 36 If they sin against Thee—for there is no man that sinneth not—and Thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captive unto a land far off or near; 37 yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn, and make supplication unto Thee in the land of their captivity, saying: We have sinned, we have done iniquitously, and have dealt wickedly; 38 if they

return unto Thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captive, and pray toward their land, which Thou gavest unto their fathers, and the city which Thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for Thy name; 39 then hear Thou from heaven, even from Thy dwelling-place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause; and forgive Thy people who have sinned against Thee.

40 Now, O my God, let, I beseech Thee, Thine eyes be open, and let Thine ears be attent, unto the prayer that is made in this place.

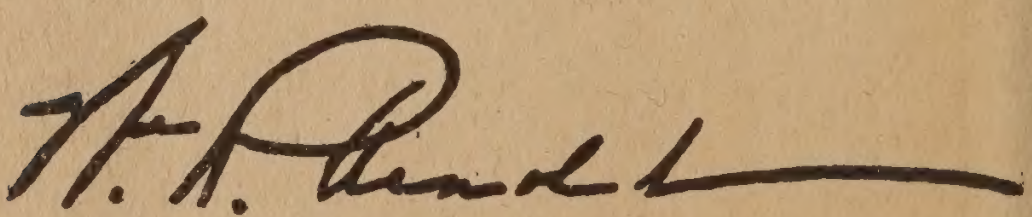
41 Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into Thy resting-place,
Thou, and the ark of Thy strength;
Let Thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation,
And let Thy saints rejoice in good.

42 O LORD God, turn not away the face of Thine anointed;
Remember the good deeds of David Thy servant.'

THE END

Do You Know Your Chaplain?

This copy of the Scriptures should initiate and promote a warm friendship between you and your chaplain. He has studied the Word of God for years and uses it daily for his own strength and comfort, and for the instruction of others. His love for the Scriptures makes him your friend and guide. When he counsels you he speaks with the knowledge and charity found in this little volume. A soldier who knows the Word of God and honestly tries to observe His laws is a man of power and influence among his fellows and exalts his military service to the high level of religious faith, courage and loyalty.



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